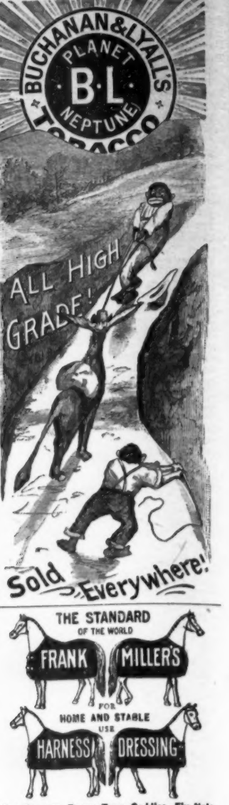

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Maine Farmer.

BADGER & MANLEY, Publishers and Proprietors. "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN." TERMS: Two Dollars per annum, in Advance.

VOL. LX. AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1892. No. 21.

The best beef is a full cent a pound lower than one year ago this time.

With the condensed milk business, and the multiplication and extension of the butter and cheese factories, this State gives promise of substantially increasing her dairy interests.

The New Hampshire *Mirror and Farmer* takes the ground, with us, that "an agricultural college should turn out farmers." If not, then where is agriculture to get its share of advantages from these institutions?

Arrangements have been perfected for sending large consignments of apples to London from Tasmania, where the seasons being reversed from ours, the fruit is now ready for export. The first lot is now on the way.

Mr. D. D. Howe, Secretary of the Vermont State Grange, has been placed in charge of the Experiment Farm at Burlington. Mr. Howe is a man of intelligence, a practical and successful farmer, and has been chosen with special reference to his ability to manage the college farm in a manner to benefit the agriculture of the State. This appointment comes directly from the action of the farmers of that State in behalf of their interests in that institution. It is only another proof that the rewards come to those who earn them. Will the farmers heed the lesson?

Mr. J. L. Gerrish of Contoocook, New Hampshire, a sheep grower of some experience, in an article in the *People and Patriot*, says that "when an inexperienced New Hampshire farmer, desiring to embark in raising mutton and early lambs, stocks up with mutton sheep of any of the heavy English breeds, he is doomed to disappointment, loss and failure, unless the same methods of feeding and handling are continued." We can endorse the statement as also applicable to Maine, and we have seen many failures in proof. There are comparatively few who have learned how to care for and feed heavy weight mutton sheep, and keep them in health and thrift. Experience has chiefly been with other sheep, where requirements are less exacting.

Hired Help.

Mr. Editor: We should like to know how you figure when you talk about hiring "good, reliable help," etc., which is all very well, but that means good wages, and where is the money coming from to pay such help, with things as they are at present, when fine apples bring only 50 cts. a bushel, and hard to sell at that, and potatoes the same, and milk only about 13 cts. a gallon, (old measure) after paying for freight, and carrying to the depot, besides graining the cows, and hay so low that it don't pay to sell it, and so we have to take the advice, so often given in the good old *Maine Farmer*, to keep stock enough to eat it up.

They say that farmers are always growling; nevertheless, facts are stubborn things and we are willing to be enlightened as to how farmers are to pay for good help, besides boarding them, and have anything left to live on. While good, plenteous crops are a blessing to the consumer, we fail to see how the producer is benefited, except by the satisfaction in having a bountiful harvest to reward his labors. But that won't pay the bills. So, please tell us how to do it in the columns of your valuable paper, and oblige, AN OLD FARMER.

We are aware that the problem of hiring help, on the farm, is a two-sided one, and, to that, it is a difficult one for many farmers to solve. Often do we meet the query, when urging this or that improvement, or an extension of the business, "Where is the money coming from to pay the help?" We are willing to confess that it is not easy for a second party to readily designate how it can be done, yet there are many farmers who are yearly illustrating it, and so long as this is the case, there must be a course of management through which this help is made, at least, to earn its cost. In most cases, of course, it does more than this, or the practice would not be continued. In our own case, we have always from the start been dependent on hired help, and have always made it a point to have none but the best. Though costing more, the best help is the cheapest in the end. While giving more of work, there is at the same time less of wear, tear and breakage with their service, and what is much more than money, less of anxiety, perplexity and accidental losses. We have always found cheap and incompetent help the most expensive. The place for laborers of that class is where the eye and the management of a boss is constantly over them.

You would like to know how we figure? This is how we do it. If help is hired there must be enough more of *paying work* carried on out of which the money comes to pay for the work performed. On too many farms there is work carried on that does not pay its cost. On many others the help is much of the time employed at work that does not pay in cash. Of course, such work does not bring the money with which to pay its hire.

If help is hired on the farm—good help—there should be a money income from it, at least enough to meet the outlay. The Hon. S. A. Hickox, who gave a lecture last fall before some of the institutes in this State, on how to bring up a New England farm, related that in deliberating over the problem, when in his first year's experience he did not have money enough out of his year's operations with which to pay his help, he decided that the reason of his being short was that he "did not raise enough to sell." By increasing his production, the problem was solved. Just so with every farmer. Increased labor employed must bring a proportionate increase of production. It is in this way, alone, that we have been able all these years to hire "good help," and make it pay its way. So we say to others, hire good help, and then accomplish something with it.

Shelter for Stock.

Some good work was done by Ex-Governor Hoard of Wisconsin while on his lecture trip east last winter. The Governor has a way of striking straight out from the shoulder and dealing powerful blows direct to the errors of practice which he encounters. At the Vermont State Dairymen's meeting, he told the farmers assembled that he had got to find serious fault with them for their disregard for what was right and profitable in the handling of their cows. And so he told them of riding on the cars across the country on a cold, stormy, miserable day, yet many of the cows were seen ranging the fields from morning till night, and the owners probably paying thirty dollars for cotton seed meal, twenty-eight for linseed and twenty-six for corn meal—"warming all out-of-doors with high priced food, and asking the Lord to bless their efforts towards the advancement of thy kingdom in the cow."

From this he went on to show the Vermont dairymen what such exposure meant to them. At his home creamery he keeps appliances for experiment, and he keeps accurate accounts of the milk brought in, while all the while a record of the temperature and the character of the weather is also noted. Yesterday was perhaps a raw stormy day, he went on to say, and a patron brings in his milk the next morning; it is not up to the average, probably several pounds short. He says to him, "You allowed your cows to run out yesterday?" "Yes," he says, "I guess they was out. Was you by my place?" He then can by his records go on to show the patron the consequent falling off in milk, and how much he has lost by his neglect. Not only is the quantity less but when the Babcock test is applied a falling off of butter fat is found. The fact is that a cow must take care of herself first, and if the effects of the food consumed are required to maintain warmth it cannot be put into the milk.

Here is a good lesson for all dairymen and stockowners to heed. Exercise is important, air fresh and pure is healthful, sunshine desirable, but exposure to chilling winds and cold storms should be guarded against. Care in this direction is especially needed at this spring season of the year. Not only does this bold true with cows but applies to other cattle and to sheep and colts as well. Cows make a record of the damage to them by the falling off of the milk and the butter, but the effect is with others all the same.

There is no stock more effected by improper exposure than sheep, and none so frequently neglected. This is especially true of ewes with lambs at side. With them the importance of promoting a milk flow should never be lost sight of. Chilling winds and cold storms will have the same effect with them as with cows. The storms are even worse, for the thick coat of wool once wet will carry its chilling effects for a long time. It is the thoughtful attention to such matters as these that makes the efforts of our farmers more successful than another. The cost is trifling, but there is money in the results.

Result of Sec'y McKeen's Trip.

Secretary McKeen has just returned from a trip to Massachusetts, where he went for the purpose of collecting facts for assistance to the work of the board. While there he visited Mr. Sessions, the able and genial Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, and found him busy looking after the farmers' interests in the legislature now in session. The particular bill in which he is now interested is one to provide for a State inspection of all feeds placed in the markets of the State, containing more than twelve per cent. of nitrogen. This bill has been attacked by the Boston Chamber of Commerce as impracticable, and a meeting was arranged between committees from the chamber, and from the board, for the purpose of formulating a bill which might be satisfactory to both. The Secretary was unable to ascertain the result of this conference.

The meeting of the Trustees of the New England Agricultural Society for the purpose of revising the premium list for 1892, was held in the John Hancock building on Tuesday, March 22, all of the States being represented. The premium list for 1891 was adopted with only the addition of third premiums in the classes for cows. The Trustees voted unanimously to give letters of endorsement to Hon. H. C. Burleigh of Vassalboro, as juror on Hereford and Polled Angus stock, and Hon. C. P. Mattocks as juror on Cotswold sheep at the World's Columbian Exposition.

By means of letters of introduction from prominent men, he was enabled to visit some of the jobbers in canned goods, as well as manufacturers of condensed milk, and learned much from them of the merits of the business for Maine farmers and Maine capital. From all that could be gathered of the amount in use now, and the steady increase in consumption for ten years past, he is led to the conclusion that there will be a still greater sale in the future. Considering the tenacity with which consumers cling to the old reliable brands, and the possible danger which might arise from an increased production of an inferior article, as well as the great difficulty which must be experienced in obtaining competent men to manufacture, it seems to him that it is but the part of wisdom to let the factories, which have already been established in our State, with every prospect of success, make the trial trip, and thus demonstrate the value of the business for our State. The addition of another outlet for our products can but tend to strengthen our agriculture, and, as of old, all roads led to Rome, so must increased avenues of trade lead to increased prosperity. The stringent rules which must be lived up to by all farmers who furnish milk to these factories will, necessarily, raise the standard of work, and thus increase our incomes. For the condensed milk factories already established, he has only words of encouragement, coupled, possibly, with a grain of caution.

As it may take a long time to establish a reputation which will sell their goods, so it will take quite an amount of capital to carry the necessary accumulation of the product, therefore mutual concessions may be necessary, and there may be times when the producer will be compelled to sell at what may seem to him to be ruinously low prices. But as there is always room at the top, merit will win in the end, and success must come if the efforts are intelligent and well directed.

A visit to the Weather Bureau led to an engagement of Mr. J. Warren Smith, Assistant Observer, to visit Maine and lecture upon the importance of weather forecast for farmers. His first lecture will be given at an institute to be held at the Town Hall, Lincolnham, on Tuesday, April 5th. The importance of these forecasts for warning farmers of approaching rains in spring and summer, and possible frosts in autumn, cannot be over-estimated. Mr. Smith is keenly alive to the importance of his work, and being an active student and good speaker, he is eminently qualified to give much information upon the subject.

The Condensed Milk Movement.

We call attention to the open letter in another column from Mr. Geo. H. Page, manager of the Angle-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., now doing business in Switzerland, Bavaria, England, New York and Illinois, to Hon. I. C. Libby, President of the Aroostook Condensed Milk Co., of this State and the leader in the present awakening of the public to an interest in this business in this vicinity. The *Farmer* has purposely declined to take an active hand in the pushing and in the encouragement of this new industry among us further than to report proceedings as matters of news and let others give their views in its columns. The reason for this course was that from knowledge in its possession it was not disposed to endorse the extreme claims set forth for this industry. It held to the opinion that the outlets for milk already provided in the State were quite as desirable, and well managed would in the end prove as profitable to producers as the new industry in question. At the same time it did not wish to obstruct in any way the introduction of a new industry, but was entirely willing it should take its chances with the others, believing that in the end a cool and candid wisdom would prevail.

As giving information on the business not otherwise available, the letter referred to is published in full. Facts sooner or later must prevail, and are what all concerned are interested to learn.

Early Cut Hay.

Our long-time and valued correspondent, Mr. S. T. Floyd, in his article last week referred to the feeding value of early cut hay. We call it up again for the reason that it is a matter to which the editor of the *Farmer* has recently had his attention called in his own practice. We have for sometime past been feeding extra early cut hay to cows giving milk and also to fattening oxen. While experience with such hay has before led us to dislike it, we must say that this latest trial has more than confirmed our former estimate of it. We do not like early cut hay as a stock fodder. The reason we do not, is because the stock does not eat it as well as later cut, it does not contain the substance, nor will it produce the results either in fattening oxen or making butter. Judging from experience in feeding we get the best results from grass that stands till it has arrived to its full maturity.

Chairman Hickman of the Missouri legislature, says: "The graduates of State universities seldom return to the plow, push the jackplane, or hammer iron at the forge. On the contrary, they lose no time in making up their minds that they belong to the aristocracy, and that to follow such old-fashioned pursuits is in bad taste. The worst feature about it is they generally use their influence in favor of the caste to which they belong, and against the tax payers who have paid their school bills. I am in favor of a great industrial school, one that will help the wealth producer, a school where useful men are produced, not snobs."

Oxford County Farmers and the Waterford Creamery.

With the mercury in the thermometer hunting closely after the zero mark, the wind howling from the cold northwest, and the snow nearly all gone, the thought of mounting a wagon for a long drive over the widely famous hills of Oxford county was not a pleasant one. But like many of the obstacles which a timid individual may, with a vivid imagination, erect in the pathway of life, in the realization these barriers of discomfort were found, as we started out from our comfortable home on the farm for the journey, a will-o-the-wisp at all times just a little way ahead, but not overtaken. The trip was made in response to a call from the Waterford creamery to visit the patrons of that enterprise, and give to them further information, as we might be able, in regard to methods and practices connected with the business, both on the farms and at the factory, and also as to the actual profits to the farmers of this branch of work when entered upon earnestly and handled intelligently.

The town of Waterford is one of those towns that has been left a little off the track of the easy and rapid transit of modern enterprise, and though rough, and not specially inviting when viewed from a distance, yet containing a very goodly population for a rural town, among which are enterprising people who propose to stay in town and own and occupy its fertile acres. Staying there, something must be done on those farms, out of which the wants, the luxuries and the pleasures of life on the farm could be met. Out of the situation a quartette of thinking men, made up of Messrs. C. D. Morse, L. W. Flint, W. K. Hamlin, and the operator, H. I. Mason, equipped a modern butter factory for business, and then invited the farmers of that town, and sections of the towns of Norway, Oxfield, Harrison and Sweden, to take a hand in the business of dairying, and contribute their cream to their factory. The factory is located at the little village of South Waterford. From the start the proprietors realized that the key to success was the making of a good product, and that the way to insure this was to employ an operator that was master of his business. The services of Mr. Henry I. Mason of Turner were secured for the place. Mr. Mason, after having learned the business of cheese making, and attaining a marked success in the handling of milk for the product of cheese, served a long apprenticeship at the widely noted Turner Centre butter factory. From that factory he was secured to take charge of the business at Waterford. Here, from the first, he has succeeded in bringing out a product of first class quality, and that never has failed of satisfying the market wherever it has been placed.

When it is considered that the field covered by the work of the factory has never been largely engaged in the business of dairying, the extent of the business done by this creamery is creditable to the proprietors and the operator. The past winter the make has run from three to four hundred pounds a day. During the flush of milk, in the early summer of last year, the product reached as high as forty-one hundred pounds a week. The business for the past year amounted to something over $30,000. But the farms contributing to this enterprise throughout the whole field are scattered, and the individual herds of cows are small, so that the cost of collecting cream, though managed with strict business economy, is more than at some of the other factories in the State, and of course this adds just that much to the total cost of manufacture. Then, again, the farmers have not generally, yet, got up to a realization of the advantages of more milk in winter when butter is scarce and high, and the consequent result of less in early summer when markets are over crowded and prices are low. A change in this particular direction, with an increase of the number of cows kept, coupled with a more liberal feeding, would make this among the most profitable enterprises of the kind in the State. The farmers of the vicinity may rest assured that with their present manager in charge they will have full justice meted out to all alike, and that the business in every respect will be carefully and judiciously handled.

It was our purpose, among these farmers, to represent to them what is being done by the dairymen in our State who are making a speciality of this line of work, and conducting it on a scale large enough to realize the advantages that come from it. For this purpose informal meetings were held at North Norway, North Waterford and South Waterford, at which a free-and-easy conference was held with the farmers of the locality. The meetings were well attended, and by a class of farmers who manifested a lively interest in the matter as presented. We trust the effort will not be void of results. Farmers everywhere want to know more of the methods and practices by and through which their business can be improved, and though sometimes charged with being slow to change, or to accept new methods and practices leading to larger and better results, yet in our intercourse with them for these many years, we have always found them attentive listeners and willing learners where their confidence is enlisted to the effect that what is presented can be relied upon.

We were impressed with the idea, all along the section visited, that what the farmers need is some money out of their business. The great question, then, facing them all is, from what source shall it be derived? The soils are fertile, the hillsides afford abundant and cheap pasturage, and grasses are sweet and nutritious. How shall they afford some money? Sheep have largely disappeared. The raising of young cattle and of oxen for sale is no longer sufficient to meet the case—what shall take their place?

We are confident that in that locality, and in other sections of the State like situated, a well managed dairy business, pursued in a manner conforming to the requirements of the business as now demanded, will meet the case with a fair degree of success. But to realize this the business must be carried on on a scale large enough to afford some possibilities from it. A small herd of cows, with perhaps a large portion of their product used up in supplying the wants of the family on the farm, are not sufficient to meet the case. As the numbers are multiplied, however, and the business is made a specialty, its advantages begin to appear. The requirements for success in the business of butter dairying at the present time, may be set down as follows:

1. More cows.
2. Attentive care and good feed the year round.
3. More milk in winter, and less in early summer.
4. Better cows.

When the farmers, owning the grand old hills of Oxford, will modify their present work so as to conform to these rules, in the order as laid down, plenty and prosperity will abound in greater measure, and they will be richly rewarded in the added enterprise called for in their execution. Success crowns the efforts of those only who seek diligently to win it.

Mr. W. L. Hussey says: "Quite a number Meadow King mowers in this section and give excellent satisfaction. No long pitman. Cut, if drive ever so slow."

Advancing the Grange.

The Massachusetts State Master, Elmer D. Howe, has issued the following instructions to the granges in his jurisdiction which are equally applicable elsewhere:

First, let every officer, from master to lady assistant steward, rest satisfied with nothing short of perfection in the work of their respective positions. To this end I shall make the various officers of the state grange heads of their respective departments, and in a measure responsible for accurate work on the part of their subordinates. Thus, if a steward of a subordinate grange desires accurate information as to the scope of his duties, he will be referred to Brother E. A. Emerson of Haverhill, steward of the state grange. On the other hand, Brother Emerson will be required at the next state grange meeting to report upon the efficiency or inefficiency of all the stewards of our subordinate granges. In like manner, let there be close and constant communication to between all the state grange officers and their respective laborers in the subordinate granges.

Our inspection service this year will be postponed until fall, in hopes that the longer time thus given will induce all our officers to commit to memory their respective charges, and that the conferring of degrees will be impressively done without the use of the manual. Most of our lecturers realize how much of the interest and welfare of the grange depends upon their having a well-planned programme for each meeting. Let every lecturer see to it that the interest in the grange meetings does not lag because of neglect on his part. In some granges the experiment has been successfully tried of having an assistant lecturer. There are many advantages to this plan, and I commend it to your consideration.

Let fraternal visits between neighboring granges be frequent, and, above all, give your hearty support and constant attendance to your district or Pomona grange. Make the meetings of the latter a sort of academy or college in which questions of broader research and deeper knowledge shall be discussed, and if called upon to prepare an essay or take part in a discussion, let your preparation therefore be thorough and exhaustive.

Keep far from you all that savors not of charity. Let brotherly love continue. The grange is no place in which to air our petty grievances or to bring family quarrels, and let nothing be thoughtful for the others' welfare and happiness. Finally, no grange can be truly prosperous unless it has within it the missionary spirit. Do you believe in the grange? Your belief will be strengthened just in proportion as you strive to impress upon others the good the grange is doing. In some sections where granges are organized in almost every town, notably in Worcester and Middlesex counties, the ministerial spirit will show itself in the efforts of the stronger to help the weaker. In other sections, where the grange is on the borderland of our organization, we trust an active campaign will be begun for pushing our order into all the grangeless towns in the state.

Sowing Seed in the House.

Many varieties of flower seeds require special treatment, but a general rule is to prepare a fine, light soil, not too sandy, but rather rich, take boxes of convenient size, about three inches deep, put in a inch of coarse soil, then fill up the box to within half an inch of the top, press this down so that it will be smooth, when it will be ready for the seed. A common mistake in sowing flower seeds is covering them too deep. A good rule, and easy to remember, is to cover only to the depth of the thickness of the seeds. Such seeds as begonia and other very small seeds should be scattered upon the surface and pressed in, but not covered with any soil. Water thoroughly with a fine sprinkler, and shade until germination has taken place. Care must be had not to keep the shades on too long; remove them as soon as the seedlings begin to come through; then the boxes should have full exposure to the light, with a little shade during the day. Great care must be exercised in watering, not to get the young plants too wet, which will cause them to damp off. I like to use a light of window glass, the size of my box, over the top. This is little in the way, and easier to admit air. This glass helps to retain the moisture, and the sun shining through the glass gives the young plants a sort of "greenhouse" atmosphere.

When the little plants have four leaves, transplant to other boxes leave room, unless the plants are from a late sowing, in which case they can go to the open ground. Keep them in the boxes, if possible, until the weather is mild enough to plant them in the open beds, which in this part of New England is about May 20. Most annuals for this transplanting should be sown from March 15 to April 15. Biennials and perennials should be treated as annuals as far as sowing and transplanting. Some varieties are sown early. Pansies, petunias, verbenas, cannas, etc., should be sown as early as possible. The advantage of sowing seeds in drills is that it is much easier to keep the weeds out, for if not quite sure which are weeds and which are plants, it is safe to say that all seedlings between the rows are weeds; besides, the seedlings have plenty of light on the earth, which will tend to prevent their being drawn.

As soon as the plants are strong enough, expose them on mild days to the full open air. A convenient "cold frame" can be made by taking a board six inches wide for the front, and another 12 inches wide for the back, of any convenient length, with end boards three inches long. Cover this nights with unbleached cotton cloth, 40 inches wide; make one edge of the cloth fast at the back or upper side, and fasten the other edge to a strip of board that will hold the cloth down nights and prevent the wind from blowing it away. At the same time, this strip will form a centre to roll the cloth on, that the bed may be exposed to the full sunlight during the day. This cloth-covered bed can be used from the middle of April on. Seeds can also be sown in this bed after April 10, and will form better plants than if started in boxes in the window.—*Amateur Gardener.*

A Fruit House.

How to Keep Fruit Until Spring.

I would build a fruit house somewhat upon the plan of an ice-house, double boarded with a space of 18 inches to be filled with sawdust or two feet with planing-mill shavings; the roof filled in the same way; matched boards if left rough; or tarred paper if clapboarded; double doors, ventilator in the top, with ducts near the bottom to admit air when the outside atmosphere is cooler than the house; fine wire screens over all openings to keep out and keep in all insects; no windows, but light through one glazed door. If the house is to be large, there should be an independent packing room.

In the autumn the ventilation should be in operation at all times when the outside air is materially cooler than that inside, until 32 to 34 degrees is reached. At all other times the house is entirely closed and dark.

Fruit is best kept by picking into bushel boxes and piled in the fruit house at once. To avoid shrivelling, the house and fruit may be sprinkled with water freely when open for cooling, but when finally closed only enough to keep the air moist. Under these circumstances Hubbardstons were sold in January at $3 00. Greenings, now perfect, will be held about a month longer, and Baldwins until the house gets warm in April or later.

Once in two or three years a long continued cold snap will cool off the house too much, but a single four inch wick of an oil stove will be ample to save a house from harm.—*Jabez Fisher, in N. E. Farmer.*

It has always seemed to *The Farm Journal* that there is something superior in the character of a person fond of horticulture. Whoever heard of a man going to the fair who liked to work in the orchard, among trees and plants and flowers? Score the highest mark for the orchardist, and match him. If you can, in all the attributes of a serene, upright and generous man.

A cent the exercise of cows in winter, J. McLain Smith says in the *Farmer's Home Weekly*: "If it is good for a cow to be tied up in a stable all winter, it should be good for a woman to remain in the house during that season. If not, why not? Is a cow more delicately organized or more sensitive, or is air and exercise less important in her case or less conducive to health?"

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Growing Early Potatoes.

What is the Best Fertilizer or Manure for Growing Early Potatoes?
Will Hen Manure Make Potatoes Scurvy or Rough?

For growing early potatoes, the ground should be plowed in the fall. An application of seven cords of stable manure per acre in the fall will be about the best manuring that can be given. Raw stable manure should not be applied to the potato crop in the spring, as it has a tendency to induce disease. Well rotted stable manure may be spread on the land in the spring and thoroughly worked into the soil.

In growing early potatoes, it is desirable to have a considerable quantity of plant food, that is immediately available, within easy reach of the young plants, as the crop must make its growth in a few weeks, and it is necessary to force its growth early in the season. Many good authorities recommend a compost of hen manure, wood ashes, and land plaster, in the drill, well worked into the bottom of the furrow, but if there is a tendency for the potatoes to scab on the land used for the crop, it would be better to avoid both hen manure and ashes for this purpose, and use instead 400 to 800 lbs. of any standard quality of superphosphate, or special potato manure. This may be applied in the drill, and worked in as described for the compost of hen manure, ashes and plaster, or after the potatoes are covered lightly, in the drill above the potatoes and covered.

For growing potatoes, all authorities agree that besides supplying the necessary plant food for growing the crop, it is desirable to have the soil well filled with human or organic matter. This stable manure supplies, and commercial fertilizers do not. One who makes a speciality of the potato crop, either for the early or late market, should lay his plans a few years ahead, as to have the ground in proper condition for the crop. Experience has shown that a young clover sod turned under in the fall furnishes one of the very best potato manures to this be added a few hundred pounds of superphosphate in the drill, a good crop of potatoes may be expected, provided proper tillage be given. Many growers of early potatoes find it extremely good policy to apply a light dressing of nitrate of soda (100 lbs. per acre) broadcast, as soon as the plants are through the ground. The nitrate of soda induces a vigorous leaf growth early in the season; but if superphosphates are used in the drill the application of nitrate of soda would be of doubtful value, as the commercial fertilizer will usually supply the necessary amount of nitrogeneous manure.

WALTER BALENTINE.

For the Maine Farmer.

Open Letter to Hon. I. C. Libby.

ANGLO-SWISS CONDENSED MILK CO.,
82 Hudson St., P. O. Box 3773,
NEW YORK, March 16, 1892.

I. C. Libby, Esq., President Aroostook Condensed Milk Co., Houlton, Me.:

Dear Sir: I see copied in the *American Cultivator* of Boston, extracts from your remarks made in the *Maine Farmer*, regarding the business of manufacturing condensed milk in the United States.

You are entangled in error, and are likely, therefore, to lead others into error, and in consequence into unprofitable investment.

You state that, "At the present time the condensed milk business of this country is controlled by a monopoly, there being but thirteen condensed milk factories on this continent, six of which are owned by the New York Condensed Milk Co." You seem to be led up to the idea that the condensed milk business is a monopoly from the fact that six factories of the thirteen are owned by one firm. You fail to state that the thirteen factories, which you have in your mind, *are owned by seven firms*, which together with the New York Condensed Milk Co. would make eight firms, between which, to my certain knowledge, there is no agreement or combination of any kind. You could then, do you find legitimate use for the word "monopoly" applied to condensed milk?

But you are wrong as to the number of factories. There are more than thirteen. I am able to count up fifteen factories, as follows: New York Coudensed Milk Co., six; Angio-Swiss Condensed Milk Co., two; The Highland Co., two; Michigan Co., two; Borden Co., one; Pacific Co., one; The Elgin Co., one; Canfield, one. These factories are conducted by *eight separate and distinct firms*, between which *the freest of competition has unfettered sway*. Where, then, does the "monopoly" come in? There is probably no industry in the United States conducted under freer competition, closer competition, sharper competition, and almost deadly competition, than the condensed milk business. If the most deadly competition does not exist as to two of the larger manufacturers, it does apply to the others, and will apply to all new comers. The New York Co. is still doing well, for the reason that it has had thirty years' prestige, and about twenty-five years the start of all the rest in this country. You should know, however, that the profits of the New York Co. do not all arise from the manufacture and sale of canned condensed milk. That company runs about 150 milk wagons in New York and Brooklyn, supplying a very large part of all the *crude* milk the great cities of New York and Brooklyn consume They have not by any means a monopoly in those two cities in the supplying of crude milk, but they have much nearer a monopoly of the supplying of all the crude milk of these two cities, than they have of the supplying of canned milk throughout the United States.

The crude milk business of the New York Co. yields them a very large part of their profit. It is this part of their business (not the crude milk supplying) that two largest cities of the nation, that the English syndicate more particularly had their eyes upon, if, indeed, an English syndicate ever offered anything for their business.

You will remember that the associated press item published that the New York Condensed Milk Co. had actually sold out to an English syndicate. You are aware that that statement that they had sold out was a newspaper lie. Why, then, may it not be supposed that the $15,000,000 offer was also a lie? That newspaper lie will go far towards ruining the condensed milk business in this country. It called attention to the business in a way to invite still more competition on top of the ruinous competition already existing. That newspaper lie has served to raise a wild excitement in the public mind in regard to the profitableness of condensing milk, and it will, undoubtedly, lead to the starting of dozens of factories.

The New York Condensed Milk Co. already has the manufacturing facilities sufficient to meet the entire demand of the United States in canned condensed milk. The Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. possesses manufacturing facilities in the United States sufficient to supply the entire demand of the United States in canned condensed milk. The other six firms together already possess manufacturing facilities sufficient to meet the entire demand, so that the present facilities are already three times what are actually needed. What is the result? Demoralization, or confusion and consternation in the condensed milk trade. The demand, though considerable, is limited. Should the demand increase, the New York Condensed Milk Co. evidently stand ready to promptly increase their facilities. The same is the case with the Anglo-Swiss Co., but at present the Anglo-Swiss Co. has no need of increased facilities, for they have a magnificent factory, with facilities for filling at Dixon, Ill., cost, with the grounds, over $400,000. The buildings have a floor room of three acres, and are planned for a capacity of 2,000 cases per day. It will be a long time in this country grows up to the capabilities of that factory. Neither that factory, nor the Anglo-Swiss factory at Middletown, N. Y., have ever been operated to even one-quarter of their capacity.

You stand that "the New York Co.'s six factories supply one-half of the condensed milk used in the United States, and that the balance is largely imported." You are correct as to the doings of the New York Condensed Milk Co., but you are altogether wrong as to the large amount imported. To my certain knowledge less than two per cent. of the milk consumed in the United States is imported. The little that is imported is sold far above the prices asked for the domestic article. Under the McKinley act the American market is preserved to Americans, but the trade over the seas to all countries outside of Europe and the United States, is almost entirely in the hands of European manufacturers. As the consumption, however, of condensed milk in the United States equals about one-half of that of the entire globe, I am well satisfied with the home market. The American factories I represent would not be worth a cent apiece without the protective duty.

There are fifteen factories in Europe, exactly equal to the number of factories in the United States. The parallel goes still further, because the fifteen factories in Europe are operated by nine firms, so that competition over there is as sharp as it is here. The extreme competition in Europe, coupled with the equally wild competition in the United States, will never permit much profit to be realised on goods sent from either Europe or the United States to other countries.

You think that "a co-operative factory in Maine would pay twelve per cent. to its stockholders," and you are ready to guarantee each farmer more than six cents per quart for milk, "if prices are sustained." I suppose you mean if prices *for the condensed product* are sustained? No man ever fell headlong into a deeper mistake, and no man never made a deeper mistake in this world. How about the Elgin Co. that started some years ago in Elgin, Ill., alongside of the New York Condensed Milk Co. who owned factories there? The Elgin Co. was started on the co-operative plan, at least the shares were mostly taken up by the farmers who supplied the milk, if this is what you mean by a "co-operative factory." Did that co-operative factory succeed? Did not the farmers get tired of it? Were not most all the farmers soon frozen out of that corporation? If you do not know this, you would do better to make some inquiries before making random statements. I would be willing to wager a very large sum that the farmers there never obtained three cents per quart for their milk the year round, to say nothing of six cents, from the Elgin Co. That company when last heard from was still alive, but only alive They have not increased their output the past two years, in fact during the last year it has decreased.

I introduced the manufacture of condensed milk into Europe 26 years ago. I witnessed there the same epidemic of competition that is now raging in this country. I saw there after fifteen years of such competition, after fifteen go to the ground, condensing milk. Some years ago I counted up over one and a quarter million dollars that had been sunk in Europe by new concerns attempting to compete with older ones in making condensed milk. Several factories in Europe are kept in operation by changing hands. One firm would fail, and another firm would pick the business up at half price, with the idea of succeeding. That firm would fail, and another firm would pick it up at one-quarter the price, with a view of success on account of purchasing a plant cheaply, almost for nothing. One large establishment in Italy broke up. The factory could not be sold, but it was let two years with the usual exception of $1 rental. It is merely a matter, both in Europe and in this country, of the survival of the fittest. The older concerns enjoying the prestige, and selling the largest quantity, can afford to run along even with less expense than a new beginner can sell a small quantity, so that the difference in sales expenses falling upon each case of goods, between an old, large business and a new, small business, is the profit for the large producer. This is not all; the large manufacturer produces much cheaper than the small one. The labor is more profitably applied. The cost of management, and a thousand other minor things, is the same for an old, large business, as for a new, small business. The difference in the cost of production of 100 or of 500 cases per day in a single factory is enormous. This beginner cannot sell condensed milk at prices obtained by the older manufacturers. The beginner must put his prices below the lowest price asked by any other firm. He cannot do this with profit, and if he knows his cost of production and sales expenses. if he does it without knowing the cost of production, only a short time will elapse before Dun or Bradstreet will ask disagreeable questions.

It is not at all a question of capital, of enterprise, of energy, of brains, of pluck, or of "fight it out if it takes all summer," or anything of that kind, but it is a question of having the first start, a large business, and possession of prestige with the trade and with consumers.

You will probably look upon this communication as written by an interested party; one interested to keep down competition. That is my object. I am interested in the matter, but your interest is at least equal to mine, for your business judgment, as well as your capital, is at stake.

I once wrote a similar letter to the would-be promoters of a condensed milk company in England. I was laughed at in this way, viz.: They pasted up my letter in the town hall, open to the gaze of the public They did not believe in my predictions; they did not believe in my facts at all. They did not accept my warning as doing them a favor; on the other hand, they went ahead with their enterprise with all the more vigor. The result was that before one year and a half had passed their concern was sold out by the sheriff, the shareholders losing their entire investment. I hope my letter is yet hanging in the town hall, but I fear that they have taken it down. Yours truly,

GEO. H. PAGE,
General Manager Anglo-Swiss Co.

For the Maine Farmer.

Crisp and Juicy.

Mr. Editor: Having been laid up for the past few days with a kink in my rennet, it is the most natural thing in the world that I should get into mischief. After exhausting all my resources in this immediate vicinity, by plaguing my wife, the schoolma'am and the cat to my heart's desire, I now sigh for more worlds to conquer. Not to weary you with too much of my nonsense (and you will perhaps call it all nonsense), I will unburden my mind without further preface.

The Maine Board of Agriculture and the Experiment Station are supposed to work together for the advancement of the agricultural interests of Maine. I think they do, and that they both are doing good work, but why not do more? The institutes of the board and the experiments at Orono are very well as far as they go, but it occurs to me that they don't go far enough. Take the Experiment Station. There are probably lots of farmers in the State that never heard of it, or having heard of it have no definite idea of what it is for. How many make any use of the experiments that are made there, or even see an account of them? And right here I may remark, how many have seen the fertiliser analyses for 1891? Up here in Aroostook we had to depend on Prof. Whitcher for all the information that we got.

Now, as I understand it, the station has $15,000 annually to use for promoting agricultural interests. Are there any restrictions as to how that money shall be expended—providing it is used to the best advantage, as the conditions may require? Why not use a part of it each year in purchasing, breeding and distributing blooded stock, as they do in New Brunswick? Look at the splendid herds of the Jersey Island that took—all trotters. We have lots of blooded trotting stock in town—stallions with records below .30, and with sires below .20, and out of the multitude of colts that have been raised in the past few years, but a very small per cent. would sell to-day, at 3, 4 or 5 years of age, for more than $100. A very much larger per cent. would not bring over $50. There are numerous stallions of the larger breeds, but they are only half-breeds, and it is something of a lottery to try to get a good colt from them. There is car load after car load of large horses imported from New Brunswick and Canada that would sell readily to-day at good big prices, while our horses go begging for a market, because they are not what the market calls for. There was, for a few years, a thoroughbred Percheron stallion at Presque Isle, but, unfortunately, he died. You cannot find a single one of his colts in this vicinity to-day. They have all been bought up for good, big prices, and sent away. I was offered $100 for a sucker of his get, and could cite numerous instances to prove the need of Aroostook for more thoroughbred draft stock, but no doubt the same conditions of things may be found in other parts of the State.

Now, is there anything to prohibit the use of part of this $15,000 for the purpose I have named? They might begin in a small way on sheep. We need better breeds of sheep in Aroostook, and no doubt they would be acceptable in other parts of the State. Two or three men can fiddle away on determining what there is in some old cow's milk, and send their figures around to two or three prominent farmers at each post office, but what does it really amount to? If they could place some of the stock that would produce these results, so that the farmers could use them, that would be something tangible—something we could all understand and appreciate. The fertilizer analyses are getting to be quite popular, and are much sought after—so much so that when our station neglects to send them out, many procure them from New Hampshire.

Now, what do you think of all this? Is it practicable? Could not the board use its influence to bring it about? If necessary, Aroostook County Pomona will take hold of it, and they have shown that they can exert some little influence when they lift real hard. I would like to have your opinion on this subject, and if you think well of it, will set the ball rolling in Aroostook. Very respectfully,

Mapleville Ctr. FRED S. WIGGIN.

Horse Department.

The Spirit of the Hub keeps up its sharp, incisive clips at the excessive service fees. With the rapid increase of stock and the consequent lower range of prices for everything below the high standard of the market, something must be done to help check the use of nondescript stallions, and we agree with our exchange that a lower service fee is called for from those holding well bred stock of individual merit.

"Down hill all the way," is getting to be a catchy phrase with track builders, and from every section the cry is heard. Somebody has blundered, for in every case it is still propo-ed that the horse shall be driven, and be the propelling power. The only proper thing to do with these "down hill" tracks is to set the grade steep enough so that the

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Mar. 31, 1892.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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'Collectors' Notices.

MR. C. S. AYER is now calling upon our subscribers in Cumberland county.

MR. J. W. KELLOGG is now calling upon our subscribers in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

MR. I. C. LIBBY of Burnham, is an authorized Agent of the *Farmer*.

Secretary Blaine intends to leave Washington, for the benefit of his health.

Tuesday was the day appointed by Prof. Totten for the beginning of the day of judgment. That we are able to pen these lines, is proof enough that it didn't take place.

The State Board of Health held its annual meeting in Augusta, Monday. The only business of importance was the re-election of Mr. E. C. Jordan of Portland as President. The office of Secretary is continuous, so the presidency was the only positon filled.

There are now on the completed files in the pension office at Washington, awaiting adjudication 181,960 cases. These cases, says the commissioner, will be drawn for adjudication in the order of the date of filing of last pieces of evidence making the cases complete. This lot of cases constitutes about five months' work for the office. The number of cases which are being completed daily by the receipt of the necessary evidence averages about 1500.

It is rumored that the presidency of Westbrook Seminary which has been vacant since the death of Rev. J. P. Weston, has been offered to Rev. H. S. Whitman, and that he will probably accept the position. Mr. Whitman was for several years pastor of the Universalist church in Augusta, and he has more recently acted as the State missionary for that denomination. He is one of the best known and most respected of the Universalist clergymen of Maine.

The Goodall firm in Sanford will have an unrivalled display of their goods, at the coming State Fair, such as worsted, mohair, alapaca dress goods and worsted and mohair yarns. Their mohair yarn, made from Australian wool is said to manufacturers of coat braids. They will also exhibit plush rugs and carriage robes. "We will give you as good an exhibit as we take to the World's Fair," said the agent.

Elijah Low, Esq., of Bangor, whose fame as a pomologist has spread to other States besides Maine, has just received a silver medal from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, for an exhibit of plums. He had previously been awarded a similar medal by the same society for his exhibit. Mr. Low took the first premiums at the Eastern Maine State Fair in Bangor and at the Maine State Fair in Lewiston last fall, and now has received the elegant silver medal above referred to.

The free coinage bill, known as the Bland bill, is practically dead, having been killed in the house of its professed friends, and those who believe in a stable currency are rejoicing at the result. By the decision of the committee on rules, the bill is evidently shelved in the House for the present session. The Alliance members of that body are fearfully incensed at the outcome, and predict that they will carry six or eight States at the next election on the issue.

The Behring Sea difficulty seems to be settled in a manner entirely satisfactory to President Harrison and the country at large. The President and Cabinet are well pleased with the conciliatory tone of Lord Salisbury's note of the 26th inst., especially as it is held to concede the point which has been the principal cause of contention, viz.: The renewal of the modus vivendi of last year for the protection of seal fisheries. This alleged concession is believed to be implied in his proposition to agree to the modus in case the treaty of arbitration is ratified under the condition which the governments shall guarantee the other for damages incurred through the suspension of sealing operations. Officials informed on the subject estimate that the seal catch of Canadian poachers in Behring Sea last season was 28,000 skins. This is exclusive of the number of seals killed and not captured, and the pups that starved to death on the islands because of the slaughter of their mothers at sea.

Bro. Landers, of the *Kennebec Reporter*, has recently made a trip to the promised land of Aroostook, and is eloquent over the same in the columns of his paper. He closes his article with these words: "We would not advise any of our young men to leave Gardiner if suitable employment can be obtained here, and we hope that time is not far distant when it will not be necessary, but if you must go, instead of adopting the lamented Greeley's advice to 'Go West,' turn your attention Eastward. Aroostook has no use for drones or the fellow who is everlastingly looking for the "soft snap" in life, but to the man who "means business," endowed with that energy, industry, and "get-up-and-get" spirit necessary in these days of competition and push to succeed anywhere, our observations warrant the statement that nowhere in this great country is there a better opening with more favorable possibilities at the present time than in fertile Aroostook, 'Away down in Maine.'"

President Elliot of Harvard College got himself into a peculiar situation by an unfortunate speech he recently made to the Mormons in Salt Lake City. In a speech made in the Mormon Tabernacle, in the presence of 7000 people, he glorified the Mormons by comparing them with the New England Puritans, and expressing the desirability of allowing them full religious liberty. The president of the Mormon Community thanked him, but the Gentiles are angry and amazed. "The Salt Lake City *Tribune*," commenting on Mr. Elliot's speech, says: "There was an attempt here under the guise of religion to extend universal license to a licentious community, to make what is punished as a crime in all civilized countries a sacrament of Almighty God, and that made trouble. And when by inuendo President Elliot seeks to convey the idea that through that conflict those who were waging a war for right, for civilization, for the sanctity of the American home, were doing wrong, he simply makes an egregious idiot of himself." As Harvard has several Mormon students, perhaps Mr. Elliot was catering to that element.

In his speech at the banquet given in his honor at Paris, Thursday night, by the American colony, in that city, Mr. Whitelaw Reid, the American minister, said: "The President and Mr. Blaine in proposing this post to me were kind enough to say that after over a quarter of a centdry of hard work in Washington and New York, it would be good for me to have a vacation. I have been here for three years and am going back to New York to get a vacation. There is the true secret of my return. I am going home, not to seek, but resign office. There has been nothing disagreeable to cloud my Parisian souvenirs, which I will cherish while I live. Even a ripple of trouble has reached the legation. I rejoice that these relations like this banquet are without distinction as to party. My politics have never been kept fully secret, but they have been kept for use at home. We are all of one party here, for we are all Americans, all in favor of our country, which ever party governs, against the world." In conclusion, Mr. Reid said: "I drink to this beautiful Paris, the American's second home. I drink to France, our old and tried friend, to the republic, our sister, and to the French President, whom all the world respects, and finally to the foreign minister, my resolute antagonist, in many questions that have been settled between our countries, but always my unswerving friend."

THE MENHADEN FISHERIES. We are glad to state that the shore fisheries of Maine remain safe, the Menhaden oil men having been defeated in committee, and there will be no interference with our State laws, in this respect, this session. It will be remembered that the proposed bill sought to take from the States the control of the Menhaden and mackerel fishing, and put it under the authority of the Federal Government.

The committee spent two days in taking the evidence on the merits of the question, and then came to the conclusion that there was a great constitutional question involved, and that they had better settle that question first. So they directed their energies toward finding out if Congress had the right, under the Constitution, to pass the bill. This question was finally settled in the negative, and the bill died in the hands of the committee.

This saves the le-shore fisheries of Maine from destruction by purse seines, and protects the small fishermen who depend on the business for a livelihood. And our sympathies are with this class every time. From the earliest times they have had a struggle for a livelihood, battling with the elements in all sorts of weather, and doing the best they could, eking out but a scanty subsistence. A generous-hearted and hospitable people, they have, in times of national peril, responded to the country's call, and the deck of many a vessel in a deadly naval encounter has been wet with the blood of Maine fishermen.

If the doctrine of State rights should ever be enforced, it certainly should be in cases like this. The Federal Government has not the right, in questions of domestic legislation, to interfere with such laws as the several States may make regulating the fisheries in close proximity to their shores. There is always more or less danger that the rights of the States will be encroached upon in the tendency toward centralizing our system of government. No national Fish Commission can so well understand the wants and rights of Maine fishermen, as the intelligent and practical Maine fishermen themselves, and national legislation in this direction would only be in the direction of national interference.

We believe in our State doing all in its power to encourage and promote worthy industries; but not to encourage any industry that will cut off the occupation and support of our own people. We don't believe in the exercise of any power that would cut off the livelihood of thousands of the fishermen along the New England coast. This question has several times agitated the legislature of Maine, ending with the excellent policy of protecting our shore fisheries against the murderous seiners. And that is just right.

SIDE BY SIDE. We chronicled last week the death of our old friend, James M. Carpenter of Pittston, and spoke somewhat of his life and character. His aged wife died on the same day, and both were buried on Friday, the double funeral occurring at the family mansion, in the presence of a large concourse of friends and neighbors. An impressive silence pervaded the rooms as the clergyman conducted the service. There, in his casket, wearing the same pleasant features that were so familiar to his friends in life—though a little changed by suffering—was the earthly form worn for nearly eighty years by the head of the household; and as he went, with willing foot-steps down into the valley and into the shadows, the last member of his immediate family had passed from the stage of action. On the other side of the parlor reposed all that was mortal of the aged wife, falling even in maturer age, the sharer of her husband's joys and sorrows for more than half a century. Hand in hand they had journeyed through the years of buoyant youth, the struggles of manhood, and the hopes and aspirations of maturer years; and hand in hand they had responded when the Master knocked at the outer gate.

We had remembered this aged couple in the activities of busy life, planning for each other's comfort; we had seen them in the stern conflicts, when it required nerve to stand for conscience sake; we had seen these aged and beloved pilgrims, staff in hand, descending together the western declivity of life, with wrinkled faces turned towards the setting sun; and now we saw them resting in sweet peace at the end of the conflict. Tears were out of place at such a funeral. We have seen the child snatched from its mother's arms; the youth stricken down just as he had begun to ascend the hill of life; the strong man removed in the busiest years of his usefulness; and at these scenes the poor heart must bleed. But when an aged couple have completed their work and reached the last grand halt in the journey of life, "like a shock of corn fully ripe for the harvest;" that while in life they were not separated, in death they were not divided, the event seems beautiful and appropriate.

Mr. Carpenter died just as the morning sun was rising, touching with its glorified presence the familiar scenes that stretch out from the home place, lighting up the fields of snow in the valley of the Kennebec, and touching the pale face of the now quiet sleeper. On the same day, just as the same sun was setting amid the glow of gold and amber, the spirit of Mrs. Carpenter went to its Maker. Just one day—from the rising to the setting sun—representing in a striking manner the brief day of life. Surely, very appropriately has the voice of the prophet proclaimed, that "all flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand forever."

The following statement shows the population of Maine by color, sex, general nativity, etc., as determined by the official count of the returns made under the census of 1890:

Total population	661,086
Female	332,590
Native born	582,125
Foreign born	78,961
White	650,303
Native white	580,568
Native parents	506,760
Foreign parents	73,808
Foreign white	69,735
Colored	1,933
Native colored	1,557
Foreign colored	376

Editor of Maine Farmer: Will you or some one through the columns of your paper, tell me where I can buy some registered Devon cattle to breed from, and at what price. I want to get them in this State if possible, and greatly oblige

Houlton. GEORGE S. COPELAND.

Apply to C. B. Gilman, Bingham, and L. H. Maxim, Sumner, both of whom have Devon Stock. There is also stock of this blood owned in the town of Hiram, but we are unable to give name of owners.

A quick, intelligent boy, ten years old, is in need of a home with some kind-hearted, Christian farmer's family, where he may have good advantages of an education, and a wholesome home influence, in return for which care he will strive to do all that is reasonably required of him Knowledge of such a home will be most gladly received by the Associated Charities of Portland, Me., with which applicants, giving address and references, will please correspond.

The lease of the Bangor & Piscataquis Railroad for 999 years was signed by President Burleigh for the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad Company, and by Mayor Snow for the city of Bangor, and was examined by the directors of the Bangor & Piscataquis Railroad Thursday forenoon and signed by President Nealey for that company Thursday afternoon.

MEMORIAL DAY ORATORS. The following Memorial Day orators have been engaged:

Gardiner—Frank R. Wiggin of Bangor.
Brooks—J. O. Johnson, Esq., of Liberty.
Warren—Rev. E. H. Sherry.
Buckport—Rev. William Forsyth.

Kendall & Whitney, Portland, have issued their annual catalogue of standard garden seeds, with full descriptions of all that seems to be wanted in a first class garden. This is one of the most reliable firms in the country, and they send their catalogues free on application.

L. A. Dow, who owns the great salmon fishing rights of Sears Island, down the bay, has already visited that point, looking after his interests as regards the coming season. His lease of the island expires soon and he wants to renew it. It is too valuable a property to lose.

In forwarding a communication, a subscriber writes: "We are all interested in the *Farmer*. I consider it a valuable paper for the household."

A democratic paper is to be started in Skowhegan. The proprietors have leased for five years a building for an office.

V. P. COOLIDGE, MATTHEWS' MURDERER. The Waterville *Mail* received a copy of the *Tuolumne Independent*, published in Sonora, Cal., containing an article which we copy and which will be read with a most lively interest by the older citizens of Kennebec county and by many others who remember the tremendous excitement attending the famous "Coolidge Murder," at Waterville and the reported escape of Coolidge from prison.

A large number of persons have always believed that Coolidge really escaped from prison and that he went West, where he was seen by several Maine people. The Sonora article seems to substantiate the theory of Coolidge's escape:

"In 1849 a man named Ed. Matthews drove a band of cattle from Bangor to Waterville, Maine. A man named V. P. Coolidge, who had always pretended to be a warm personal friend of Matthews, knew that the cattle had been sold, and that Matthews had money. Coolidge, it is said, gave Matthews a glass of brandy in which was a dose of Prussic acid. Matthews died, Coolidge was arrested, tried, and sentenced to be hanged. In 1849 the body of a man supposed to be Coolidge was found in his cell. A quiet examination was held by the prison authorities, who announced that Coolidge had committed suicide. The body was accordingly buried. But it was not Coolidge. The latter escaped and came to California. He commenced mining in Columbia, and one day met upon the street a lady from Maine who was visiting in Sonora. Richard Parker, whose former home, we believe, had been in Dover, Maine. Notwithstanding the current belief that women cannot keep a secret, Mrs. Parker never revealed what she knew until after the death of her dear friend. In 1853 Coolidge took the smallpox. Mrs. Parker nursed him through his illness. He died and was buried in the old cemetery on the hillside above Springfield, where his body now lies. There are a number of people still residents of the county who remember the circumstances well. Mrs. Parker, we understand, is now living in San Francisco.

The murder of Matthews created considerable excitement in Waterville, and a song of 32 verses was composed concerning the matter. There are several Maine men in Sonora who can yet repeat several verses of it.

Shortly after the body which had been substituted for that of Coolidge was buried, the Warden of the prison married Coolidge's sister.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE IN SAGADAHOC COUNTY. Secretary McKeen has arranged for an institute of special importance at the Town Hall, Bowdoinham, on Tuesday, April 5. This is a meeting which every farmer in the vicinity should make plans to attend. In the morning, at 10 o'clock, Mr. Thomas Daggett will discuss the "Corn Crop and How to Grow It," to be followed by Secretary McKeen on "Value of Mixed Grain for Maine Farms."

In the afternoon, at 1 30, Mr. J. Warren Smith, assistant observer at the signal bureau office, Cambridge, Mass., will present the subject of agricultural weather signals, the subject being "Relation of the Weather Bureau to Agriculture." This is the first time this important subject has been presented in Maine, and no one is better prepared to discuss it than Mr. Smith. He desires to extend the benefits of the weather signal service to the farmers of Maine during the coming season of farm work and harvest, and will co-operate with the grange to this end. The members of Bowdoinham Grange will furnish a picnic dinner for all who attend.

On Wednesday, April 6, Secretary McKeen and Mr. Smith will visit Clinton, where Kennebec County Pomona Grange is to be held, and in the afternoon, at a public session, Mr. Smith will deliver the same address, and Secretary McKeen will speak upon the need of uniting for the success of this and other lines of farm work. Farmers at both places should make plans to attend these conventions.

LINCOLN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. At the annual meeting of the Lincoln Agricultural Society, Major E. W. Stetson, member of the Board of Agriculture from Lincoln county, submitted a proposition which if carried to a successful termination would result in offering a special set of premiums of considerable amount for corn and beans, raised on the farms of Lincoln county; such premiums to be awarded at the annual fair in September next. It is proposed to offer the following:

For best acre of corn, 1st $20, 2d $15, 3d $10, 4th $5.

For best ½ acre of corn, 1st $15, 2d $10, 3d $7, 4th $4.

For best ½ acre of beans, 1st $10, 2d $8, 3d $4, 4th $3.

It is proposed that all persons who wish to compete for these premiums shall pay to the society's agent for his town the sum of $1, and shall have his name registered as a competitor for these premiums. Town agents will be instructed to canvas their respective towns for this purpose, and make return of names and money collected before April 16. Competitors will be required to have the land on which crops are raised for competition measured by a competent surveyor, and a certificate of such measurement, attested by the surveyor and the party exhibiting the crops must be placed on exhibition with sample of crop at the annual fair.

The awards will be made by a committee selected by the trustees. Premiums to be paid within 60 days after the fair.

These premiums will in no way interfere with the premiums offered by the society for corn and beans.

THE "HUMAN OSTRICH" DEAD. Joseph Kennedy, the "human ostrich" of dime museum fame, died at the City Hospital St. Louis Thursday night, the immediate cause of his death being pneumonia. Kennedy, who swallowed tacks, nails, screws and other small hardware for the edification of admiring audiences, swallowed a few pounds too much.

Friday's post mortem examination were astonishing. Shortly before his death Kennedy stated that the Bellevue Medical College of New York had offered him $5000 for his body, believing that the post mortem examination would reveal some astonishingly abnormal condition of the stomach. On the contrary, the stomach, its walls and lining were found entirely normal. But they were literally filled with nails, screws, tacks and broken glass which the man had swallowed.

How long these substances had been in Kennedy's body there is no means of ascertaining, but a remarkable feature of their presence was the absence of them everywhere ejected, and that there was not one instance of perforation of any part of the stomach or throat by the sharp points or edges of these substances. But the nails, tacks, etc., were found from the base of the tongue back to the æsophagus, and from there entirely down into the stomach.

MR. CHAPMAN'S WILL. The will of T. A. Chapman disposing of an estate valued at over $1,000,000, was filed at Milwaukee, Wis., Thursday. His nephew, W. C. Chapman of Gilead, Maine, is given all the testator's property in Gilead, Bethel and Newry in the county of Oxford, Me., and at Ketchum, N. H.

The late Mr. T. A. Chapman was a very wealthy merchant, his dry goods store in Milwaukee being considered the most elegant in the country and one of the sights of the West. He was a native of Gilead, Me., and much attached to the old homestead there, which he had recently brought to a high state of cultivation and populated with fancy stock. His nephew to whom he has willed the property, as above, is a well-known musical expert.

By the terms of Mr. Chapman's will, his sister Amanda Thurston of Portland, receives $10,000; his nephew Augustus T. Chapman of Portland, $5,000. Brown Thurston, the printer, was given the mansion No. 106 State street, Portland.

His nieces, Mary Brown Thurston, Clara Brown Thurston and Jessie Louisa Thurston, each receives $500. There were no public bequests.

A correspondent at Fitchburg, Mass., writes: "I saw a statement that Mr. J. W. Thompson of Lewiston, Me., is the 'proud owner' of 15 hens, which laid 370 eggs in December and January. I can beat that record easily. I have 13 hens that laid 187 eggs in December and 184 in January, making 371 in all, a clean majority of 101 over Mr. Thompson. The same 13 hens laid 310 eggs in the month of February, last passed."

Tuesday forenoon a wild deer, from his native haunts in the woods, paid a visit to the busy town of Houlton. He was first seen coming down North street to the bridge across the mill stream, chased by dogs. Mr. A. P. Perkins was crossing at the time and in attempting to stop his career, the deer turned aside and jumped over the railing of the bridge onto the ice below, and proceeded up stream at a rapid gait. This was the last seen of him.

Nearly 60,000,000 feet of lumber will come into Moosehead lake this spring, and the entire Kennebec cut will aggregate 140,000,000 feet. The snow in the woods on the headwaters of the Penobscot and around the lake, is still two feet deep, and altogether the lumbering season has been a very favorable one.

Isaac Woodman of Hollis, has a sheep that gave birth to a large, strong lamb early in the present month. Three weeks later she had another that is good size and healthy. The queries ask if these are twin lambs.

KENNEBEC COUNTY—BUSINESS IN PROBATE COURT. Administrators appointed: Chas. S. Berry of China, on the estate of Mary C. J. Berry of China. Emery O. Bean of Readfield, on the estate of Roxanna Jones of Wayne. Asa D. Townsend of Augusta, on the estate of Abbie L. Prescott of Lynn, Mass. H. L. Butler of Mt. Vernon, on the estate of Matilda Taylor of Mt. Vernon. Wm. T. Haines of Waterville, Administrator *de bonis non*, with will annexed, on estate of Daniel S. Shorey of Vassalboro. John H. Varney of Hallowell Administrator on estate of Julia B. Varney of Hallowell. Leander J. Crooker of Augusta, on the estate of Chas. H. Guppy of Augusta; Wm. O. Alden of Portland, Surviving Partner. Frederick Stevens of Augusta, on the estate of Parmelia L. Stackpole of Augusta. John H. Marrow of Winthrop, on the estate of Ann B. Woodbury of Monmouth.

Wills proved, approved and allowed: Of Alfred P. Taylor of Winslow; Lucerne C. Taylor of Winslow appointed Executrix. Of Caroline Rockwood of Waterville; H. W. Barney of Waterville appointed Executor. Of Caleb Jones of China; Eliza J. Jones of China appointed Executrix. Of Obadiah McKechnie of Oakland; Chandler B. Wheeler of Oakland appointed Executor. Of Chas. Wing of Manchester; George F. Wing of Manchester appointed Executor. Of Melintha Gardner of Vassalboro; Albert M. Gardner of Boston appointed Executor, and E. W. Whitehouse of Augusta, Agent. Of Merrill True of Clinton; Brainerd G. True of Clinton appointed Administrator, with will annexed. Of Phebe H. Pinkham of Manchester; Mark Osborne of Manchester appointed Executor. Of Wm. Hoyt of West Gardiner; Uriel Atwood and Louisa E. Hoyt appointed Executors. Of Martha Louisa Williams of Gardiner; Caroline M. Wentworth of Gardiner appointed Executrix. The will of Isaiah James of Oakland will be contested, on the ground of alteration after the will was made.

Ellen M. Simpson of Litchfield was appointed Guardian of her children, Will I., and Fred R. Simpson of Litchfield. Lendall Titcomb of Augusta was appointed Guardian of Sarah C. Smith of Augusta, insane. Maude L. Abbott of Augusta was appointed Guardian of Walter F. Abbott of Augusta. Nora McQuillen of Vassalboro was appointed Guardian of Howard A., Rachel J., and Sadie W. McQuillen of Vassalboro.

In the Insolvency Court, C. W. Jones of Augusta was appointed Assignee on the estate of Lydia G. Bean and Josiah Bean of Vassalboro, individually and as co-partners under the firm name and style of L. G. & J. Bean. O. B. Clason of Gardiner was appointed Assignee on the estate of Kingsbury K. Blanchard of Chelsea. George A. Lydecker of Sidney has filed his petition in insolvency. The Court dismissed the insolvency case of Eugene J. Payette of Waterville. Erwin H. Avery of Waterville has filed his petition in insolvency.

MAINE METHODISTS. Following is the completed programme for the Maine M. E. Conference which opens in Augusta, Tuesday, April 12th, as arranged by Rev. I. G. Ross of this city:

Tuesday—Examination of the Itinerants' Institute. Evening, reunion prayer meeting, led by Rev. J. M. Frost of Portland.

Wednesday—9 A. M., devotional services, led by Rev. G. R. Palmer; administration of the Lord's Supper, and business. At 2 P. M., anniversary of the Christian Association Society, Rev. A. S. Ladd presiding, with addresses by Mr. Ladd, Rev. F. C. Rogers, Auburn, and Rev. I. Luce. 3.50 P. M., anniversary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society, Mrs. F. Allen presiding; address by Mrs. E. L. Albright of Delaware. 7.30 P. M., by special request, an address by Bishop D. A. Goodsell, D. D., LL. D., subject, "My Recent Tour in the Orient."

Thursday—8 30 A. M., devotional services, led by Rev. W. S. McIntire of Biddeford, followed by business at 9 A. M. 2 P. M., anniversary of the Sunday School Union and Tract Society, Rev. J. M. Frost presiding; addresses by Mr. L. G. Marsh, State field worker of the Maine Sunday School Association, Rev. N. C. Clifford, and Rev. J. F. Clymer, D. D. 3.30 P. M., anniversary of the Bible Society of Maine, Rev. J. H. Trask presiding; addresses by State Superintendent E. B. Stilson, and Gen. O. O. Howard. 7.30 P. M., anniversary of the General Missionary Society; Rev. J. W. Hamilton, Corresponding Secretary, Rev. J. O. Peck, D. D.

Friday—8.30 A. M., Devotional services led by Rev. I. Luce; business. 10 A. M., Lay Electoral conference in the vestries of the church. 2 P. M., reception of lay delegates with an address by the bishop. 3.30 P. M., anniversary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Mrs. I. G. Ross presiding; address by Rev. Charles Parkhurst, D. D., of New York. 7.30 P. M., anniversary of Freedman's Aid and Southern Educational Society, Rev. H. Chase presiding; address by Rev. George W. Gray, D. D., Corresponding Secretary.

Saturday—8.30 A. M., devotional services, led by Rev. S. Hooper; business. 2 P. M., educational meeting, E. O. Thayer presiding; addresses by Rev. B. P. Raymond, D. D., President of the Wesleyan University; Rev. C. Townsend, D. D., of Boston University; Rev. E. M. Smith, D. D., President of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary, Kent's Hill. 3.30 P. M., anniversary of the Preachers' Aid Society; addresses by Rev. W. Holmes, Rev. C. H. Haddock, Rev. Matt. S. Hughes. 7.30 P. M., one hour prayer service for members of the conference and candidates for ordination only, led by Bishop Goodsell.

Sunday—8 30 A. M., devotional services, led by Rev. C. E. Springer; business. 2 P. M., reports of delegates; address before the Epworth League rally, Rev. E. O. Thayer presiding; address by Rev. J. F. Berry, editor of the *Epworth Herald*.

After Tuesday the evening sessions will be held in the Congregational church. The Sunday meetings of the conference will also be in that church.

MEETING OF FRYEBURG GRANGE, SAT. MAR. 19. Upon invitation, Mr. W. B. Kendall of Bowdoinham, spoke to a large number of patrons in our Grange upon the subject of, "The Production of Hay." The lecture was illustrated by drawings upon a blackboard showing the constituents and food values of hay as well as the amount and kind of plant foods therein contained.

It was well delivered, enlivened by anecdotes and practical illustrations showing the various points presented. The speaker claimed that hay is the staple crop of Maine, as sure, on good land, every year as our annual snows of winter, and must in the future be one of our greatest sources of revenue. His thoughts were turned principally toward the best methods for renovating our worn soils. After urging upon his hearers the necessities of securing all the manure from the farm animals, he claimed that the efforts to renew the worn soil of the State should be extended by the use of chemicals, ground bone and ashes or other articles which will tend to supply the plant food necessary for the hay crop.

The speaker gave the results of his personal experience as a grower of hay for the market, to prove that, with proper handling and the addition of one crop of grain in rotation, any natural grass land may be made to yield an income equal to the interest at six per cent. on one hundred dollars per acre. The speaker emphasized the value of our worn soils, scattered all over the State, in every town by saying, that in his opinion, if they could be collected into one body in a single town, it would be before a syndicate of capital would be formed to purchase them and make them a source of great profit. Fortunately they can not be so collected, and their value is the greater for that fact.

After speaking one hour, and a recess, the speaker was called back by a question, and continued in the same line of thought for some time longer, holding the closest attention of his hearers throughout the entire lecture.

The meeting was enlivened by excellent music, furnished by the Grange choir and the reading of "The Deacon's Prayer" by sister Susie Charles. The Grange by rising vote, tendered a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Kendall for his admirable lecture, the choir for its music, and the editors for their papers.

It will be seen by our advertising columns of to-day that Mr. Chas. K. Partridge, Proprietor of the Old Reliable Drug Store, has succeeded his former quarters, corner of Market Square, from which he was driven by the fire over a year ago. His renovated store is one of the best furnished and located drug establishments in the State, and will receive a large and well merited patronage.

At the Patten town meeting, held Monday, L. B. Rogers was chosen Moderator; G. W. Cooper, Clerk; Leroy Miles, L. M. Carver, J. E. Parker, Selectmen; J. C. Bradford, Treasurer. All republicans. For Supervisor of Schools, Rives Mitchell; Constables, C. H. Quincy, Fred G. Hall.

It is reported that Madison Leavitt, a wealthy New Yorker, formerly a resident of Turner, has given $40,000 to endow an academy at that place. There is already a fund from which an annual income of $300 is received.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY ON THE VOYAGE OF A BOSTON VESSEL. Ship Annie M. Small of Boston, from Trapani, was spoken entering the outer harbor of Gloucester, Mass., by a press representative who learned from Capt. Howes that a plot had been concocted by the cook and steward, who are Chinamen, to murder the captain and his wife. The cook recanted from his murderous design which so infuriated the steward that he made an attempt to kill the cook, hacking him all to pieces with a sharp knife. The steward then thinking that the cook would not recover from the wounds, committed suicide by taking opium, and his body was committed to the deep.

The Chinese cook is cut and hacked almost beyond recognition and Dr. Morrow, who boarded the ship Friday afternoon, ordered his removal to the Chelsea Marine Hospital. His name is John Quong, and that of the steward who assaulted him later committed suicide, was Ew Sing. The captain said they were very attentive to their duty and appeared to show the utmost kindness both to the officers and sailors, during the voyage from New York to Marseilles and thence to Trapani. Three weeks ago, the steward showed symptoms of insanity and tried to kill himself, when he was placed in irons and confined between decks. Examination being made, a large quantity of opium was found. After a week's confinement, the cook interceded with the captain to liberate the steward, which was done and good behavior was promised. However, on a later occasion, the steward was discovered prowling about the captain's room and that of the mate at 4 A. M. He was again put in irons and confined to his room. About a week ago, he was liberated, but was again found to be acting as before.

The captain having reasons to believe that a conspiracy was going on, armed himself with a revolver and ordered the steward not to come into the cabin again, taking a boy aft to do the cabin work. The captain and his wife, becoming alarmed over the situation, did not go to bed, and every thing went along smoothly until 2 A. M. on Tuesday of last week, when the mate, rushing into the cabin, said the steward was killing the cook in the galley. The captain and officers, together with the watch on deck, broke open the galley, where they found both men on the floor. The steward with a knife and a butcher's axe was chopping the cook to pieces. The steward refused to his state room.

When the door was fastened, the wounded man was taken into the cabin and his wounds dressed. The cook, who could speak some English, told the captain that the steward had murdered all on board of the officers, together with the lady, and seize the ship. This he first consented to but, having nothing against the captain and his wife, he recoiled from the murderous plot which the murderous man and led him to commit this rash deed.

The steward, seeing that his plan had been frustrated, and thinking the cook had been killed, committed suicide rather than be rendered to the state authorities on their arrival in port. This he attempted Wednesday night, and died Thursday at 4 A. M.

The body was committed to the deep in the afternoon. The captain and his wife were very kind, and had given the Chinamen no provocation for conspiracy.

MOTHER OF 201 CHILDREN. Mrs. Charles Conat, a remarkable old lady residing at No. 17 Wesson avenue, Detroit, Mich., has had 201 offspring, 153 of whom are living, says the *New York World*.

Mrs. Conat was born July 30, 1802, near a small town in northern Pennsylvania. When a mere child her parents, Amos Huggleborn and wife, moved to Ontario, Canada, and settled at Darlington, near Lake Ontario, where this daughter gained a limited education.

In 1819 she married Charles Conat, with whom she lived 51½ decades. When he died she was the mother of 13 children, 12 of whom they saw married, and 10 of whom are living at present.

Mrs. Conat remembers very distinctly the war of 1812. Although she was but 10 years of age, she was living in the very midst of it.

She now spends all of her time visiting her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She travels from one to the other unattended. Her eyesight and health are exceedingly good, and she sews and knits almost constantly. Each of her children and grandchildren can show a present of grandmother's work.

It has been said that Mrs. Conat has more offspring than any other living person, all of whom she has seen. She is mother of 13, three of whom are dead; she has had 74 grandchildren, 33 of whom are dead; 101 great-grandchildren, 21 of whom are dead, and 13 great-great-grandchildren, one of whom is dead.

This makes a total of 201 children, 153 of them alive and well. The oldest great-great-grandchild is a girl of 15. These figures do not include daughters-in-law or sons-in-law, but give the actual number of offspring.

ACCIDENTS. George Cutting, the foreman of the repair shop of the Maine Central yard Bangor, met with a severe accident and received a compound fracture of the, leg Wednesday morning, by the handle of a derrick flying around and striking him. He had named Robert McDonald while playing on the ice. Monday of last week, fell about twenty feet into the dock; it being low tide at the time, the boy struck on the jagged rocks below and was picked up in an unconscious condition, and it was feared that he had received some internal fatal injuries. He was conveyed to a physician's office, where strange to relate, it was found that no bones were broken and only some cuts and contused wounds were found on his person. He was then dressed by the doctor and the boy was then sent home.——Mrs. J. A. Page of Caribou is confined to her home with a badly sprained ankle, caused by her accidentally stepping off of the platform when in, in two steps of the cellar floor.——Melville E. Ricker, son of Reuel W. Ricker of South Waterboro, recently cut his foot quite severely. In splitting wood the whole force of the blow fell upon the big toe joint of the foot, cutting lengthwise to the bone, making a wound three inches long and requiring the services of a surgeon.——An eight-year-old son of Charles Handy of Bucksport had his arm broken when the wheels of a freight car while playing in the Lewiston Maine Central yard, Wednesday evening.——Edward C. Knapp, of West Farmington, a brakeman, fell from a freight train on Friday morning, at Wilton, on the down trip, and the train went over him, cutting off both legs. He was married a short time ago.——Frank Fairbanks of Monroe, has had a narrow escape from being killed while sawing wood with a horse power the driving wheel broke, striking him in the back.——As Edwin Frazier of Boggy Brook, Hancock county, was playing with a dog, one day last week, the animal made a leap at him, and grabbed Ed's hand in his mouth, setting his teeth together in such a manner as to leave a small hole, nearly through the hand. The wound was small but painful.——Thomas Wentworth, a lad of 14, while riding home the other afternoon, collided with another team and was thrown out, breaking his left arm.——Mrs. Martha Orcutt, of Northport, fell six weeks ago and dislocated her shoulder, but no surgeon was called, until one day last week, when three surgeons of Belfast, after two hours time, reduced the difficulty and put the shoulder in good condition. Mrs. Orcutt is now able to be around.——W. F. Brown met with a serious accident last week while unloading a load of logs at Lancaster's Mill, Brown's Corner. His foot was caught and sprained badly.——Elmer C., the seventeen year old son of J. J. Farrar of Dixmont, was thrown from an ox sled, the other day, and stepped on by a pair of steers, which were shod. Report says there was an ugly gash cut in the face extending downward to the neck, laying the large arteries bare. He is reported as doing well.—— John Flint of Albany had a narrow escape. While driving his team down a mountain he failed to put his bridle chain on, and the team ran and threw him out. The result was broken ribs, doctor's bill, and a time of resting from his labors.

FIRES IN MAINE. Edwin Emery's house and ell at West Poland burned, Thursday. The buildings were insured for $700. The fire was discovered in an open chamber in the house, and is supposed to have caught from the chimney. Very few of the household goods were saved. The barn was not burned.——Fire Thursday night in the cigar store of A. Lewis, Bangor, caused a loss of probably $1000 to his stock, $300 to building and $300 to Ford & Rich, printers. The building is owned by E. M. Stillwell and is fully insured. The fire caught about a chimney.——A. S. Riggs' tannery at Farmington burned Wednesday morning and in a total loss. The fire caught from a defective chimney. Sixteen men are thrown out of employment. Loss about $7000; insurance $3800.——Allen, Field & Lawrence of Boston had some 1500 dozen sheepskins in the tannery, and all were burned. Their loss is nearly $6000; insured for $4000. Benjamin Page a workman, fell down stairs while lighting the fire and broke two of his ribs. He received other injuries also.——M. S. Hinckley's grocery store, in Phillips upper village, was burned Monday night. Part of its contents were saved. The cause of the fire is unknown. The loss is estimated at $2000; insured for $900.—— The house of John Poor on Cedar street, Belfast, was slightly injured by fire, Tuesday afternoon. The tannery of Otis Warren in Fryeburg burned to the ground, Monday night. The total loss is $5000; no insurance.

MONROE ITEMS. The Village Improvement Society will have a sale of articles, a grab bag, and supper, Tuesday evening, April 5th, at Town Hall. If the weather should prove to be stormy, then the next fair night.——Morning Light Grange is now having some very profitable and pleasant meetings, with good attendance, good programme, and questions for discussion each evening; also additions to membership, occasionally.

Grange News and Notes.

—IN MEMORIAM. Resolutions adopted by Princeton Grange, No. 203, on the death of sister Emeline Edgerley, who departed this life, Feb. 7th, 1892: Again have we, the members of Princeton Grange, been called upon by the great Master above to yield up to Him one of our members. Although an invalid for so long a time, yet she was always cheerful and hopeful.

Resolved, That we crave comfort in her memory, and extend our heartfelt sympathy to her husband and family, whose home is thus made desolate. May the thought that she has gone to a higher and brighter life, where pain and sorrow are unknown, enable them to be resigned to the Master's will.

Resolved, That, as a tribute to her memory, our charter be draped with a badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolut

er.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Baking Powder

TELY PURE

Items of Maine News.

A patent has been granted to Freeman C. Morrill of South Paris on a harrow.

Mrs. Clifford Wheeler of Bethel dropped dead while preparing her dinner, Monday.

Patience F. Dudley has been commissioned postmaster at North Guilford, vice S. D. Rice.

Isaac L. Elder of Deering has been appointed Judge of the municipal court of that city.

A. W. Littlefield has been appointed postmaster at East Newport, vice P. Wilton, resigned.

John Webb Libby of Rockland, an old resident and a representative farmer, died after a brief illness Sunday, night.

Mrs. Luther Smith of Belfast, aged 71 years, and an invalid, fell into the fire Tuesday, and burned to a crisp before she could be rescued.

The express office at Kingman was broken into Saturday night, Sunday or Sunday night, and the safe rifled of a package of money amounting to $350.

Some 1200 boxes of tin plate for Messrs. Small Brothers of Lubec, and Mr. C. E. Capen of Eastport, were landed at Eastport by steamer New Brunswick on her Friday's trip east.

Bark is coming into the tannery at Beddington, at an almost unexcelled rate at present. Thirty-two teams were in the yard at once Tuesday of last week. A busy time for the scaler.

Miss Love Frost, probably the oldest resident of Orono, died at the residence of her sister, Mrs. Levi Dennett, Friday morning, at the advanced age of 97 years and 9 months.

John E. Donnell of Portland died on Thursday, aged 78. He was formerly a large ship owner and was one of the largest real estate owners in Portland. He was one of Portland's wealthiest citizens.

Arrangements are nearly completed to have the weather forecasts given every morning by a system of whistles from the whistle on F. J. Watts' shop in Norridgewock. The farmers will surely approve of the plan.

Rev. F. C. Bradeen, who resigned the pastorate of the Free Baptist church, Biddeford, Sunday, has decided to retire from the ministry and accept the State agency for a life insurance company. He has been preaching for twenty-four years.

Martin Bradish of Eastport, aged seventy-seven years, died Wednesday. He had been in the wholesale and retail baking business for fifty years and has held several town offices. He was a representative to the legislature in 1887.

Deer have been seen in large numbers passing through the town from Edmunds towards Machias. Droves from three to ten have been seen in fields in the village and in the Stanhope district. The tracks are very plenty in the woods beyond Davis Black's.

The King's Daughters' fund for the old men's home at Bath, has reached $2,500. Several of the wealthy citizens have added $100 each since last week. The Rodney Hyde or the old Russell farms are talked of as being good locations and it is possible that one of these may be purchased.

Mr. A. M. Gilpatrick of Whiting, while hauling logs during the warm spell in February, saw a large black snake going over the snow at a lively rate, when being disturbed it showed fight, displaying its weapons of defence in a striking manner. This snake probably has learned that warm spells in February don't prove that winter is over.

William Frederic, a gentleman of the old stock, died at his home in Starks last Saturday, at the advanced age of 96 years. He was born on the old farm, where he has lived almost a century, and has always been a vigorous, hard working man, of remarkable health, having never tasted doctor's medicine until last Wednesday.

The wife of Rev. J. C. Andrews, a retired clergyman living on Pleasant street, Mechanic Falls, committed suicide by hanging, Monday forenoon. She was found hanging from the stair railing about nine o'clock. Mrs. Andrews has been in poor health for some time and has been despondent.

On the arrival of the steamer Oregon at Portland from Liverpool via Halifax, Tuesday morning, six cattlemen were arrested on the charge of robbing steerage passengers on the voyage. Nothing was found in the cattlemen's baggage, but it was ascertained that at Halifax they sent a valise to Montreal, so they are held until that can be found.

Seventy-five of the business and leading citizens of Norway village had a meeting at Beal's Hotel, to take measures to get a woolen mill there. A firm it is thought can be induced to go to that place if sufficient power can be secured. It will be a six set mill employing 150 hands. A committee of five was chosen to make arrangements.

Rev. George D. Lindsay of Bangor, who has been seriously ill at his home, has by the advice of his physician, gone to the Maine General Hospital for treatment. Unless there is a marked improvement in his health, he will be unable to preach for six months, during which time he is to take a rest. His host of friends trust he may entirely recover under the skilful care afforded at the hospital.

Herbert C. Goodsoe of Kittery, who was bound over on a charge of burning the Whipple house at Kittery, died in the county jail last week, where he has been confined since last June. He was insane on second question when committed, and suffering from liver and heart trouble. He was a veteran and pensioner, about 50 years of age. Proceedings were pending his removal to the insane hospital.

The Labrador, Capt. McAuley of the Dominion line, sailed from Portland, Thursday for Liverpool via Halifax. A large crowd was on the wharf to see her sail. She took a tremendous cargo, valued at nearly $2,000,000, and sixty-five horses. About 20 passengers sailed from there but every state room is engaged and will be filled at Halifax. A large number of head of cattle was taken on board at Portland.

Daniel W. Winchester of Surry was taken before a trial justice on municipal court, Monday, charged with receiving goods stolen by Harry Webber and Omar Stevens from vessels anchored at Surry Bay, a few miles from Ellsworth. Probable cause was found, and he was bound over to the grand jury in the sum of $500. Stevens was also bound over in the same sum. Webber had a hearing a few days ago, pleaded guilty, and was committed to jail.

Thursday afternoon Joseph Myreck shot and instantly killed Thomas Edwards at Sim's Mills, ten miles west of Dexter. Edwards was a desperate character, and Thursday visited Myreck's home, home of the old man Sims, Myreck's grandfather. Drawing his gun he made Mr. and Mrs. Sims dance, pray, etc., until the old couple became exhausted. Myreck was unarmed and powerless, but after Edwards left, he secured a shotgun, and following him, emptied the contents into Edwards' head.

Mr. S. S. Hersey of Auburn, one of the Isle of Springs Colony, is having a steam launch constructed at Portland this winter. She will be ready to go to the Isle of Springs July 1st. N. A. Jacobs is building the hull and H. R. Stickney the engine. A Roberts boiler will be used. She will accommodate fifteen or twenty readily. The Isle of Springs colony, with their new casino, bowling alley and Mr. Hersey's steam launch, are evidently planning for an enjoyable season. It is said several new cottages will be built at the island this season, and a large addition to the hotel is contemplated for next fall.

A land-locked salmon, weighing twelve pounds and two ounces, was caught in Peabody Pond in Bridgton, last week, by J. Libby. Some seven years ago the pond was stocked with this fish, and some of them have been seen occasionally previous to this time. Three years ago one was caught weighing four pounds, but nothing like the one caught by Mr. Libby has been seen before. Much care has been exercised during these seven years to protect the fish in this pond, and the benefit of such care is now beginning to be realized. This is the same pond from which the seven and a half pound pickerel was taken some years ago, and it is also quite a good fishing ground for trout.

The sidewheeler Frank Jones was launched from the yard of the New England company at Bath, Saturday forenoon. Early in the morning the preparations for the launching were completed, and at 9.30 o'clock Supt. Haggett gave the signal to "wedge up." At precisely 10 o'clock the steamer started down the ways, and in 20 seconds was floating buoyantly on the broad Kennebec. Just as the steamer started she was christened by Miss Nettie Tobin of Portland, who stood on a stage with several Portland young ladies at the bow of the vessel. Immediately after launching the steamer was taken in tow by two large tugs and docked at the Bath iron works, where she will receive her machinery. The new steamer is to be commanded by Capt. Will Dennison of the steamer City of Richmond of the same line, and when completed and ready for the route between Rockland and Bar Harbor the steamer will cost $175,000. The Jones is owned by the Portland, Bar Harbor and Machias Steamboat Company, and is the 252d vessel built by the New England Company.

Sick-Headache? BRECHAM'S PILLS will relieve.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Horsford's Acid Phosphate
The Best Tonic
known, furnishing sustenance to both brain and body.

A PATRIOT.—Mr. Carver, who is eighty-two years of age, walked a distance of four miles to attend the recent town meeting at Tremont.

Items of General News.

Walt Whitman, the venerable poet is dead.

Beginning April 1, a direct post office money order system will be in force between the United States and Austria.

The London Times' Buenos Ayres correspondent says the Argentine government refuses Mr. Blaine's reciprocity proposals.

All possibility of a strike on the Grand Trunk is said to be over, grievances having been settled.

John Brand, the president of the defunct Commercial Savings Bank, Kearney, Neb., has gone insane over business troubles.

Justice Lamar, of the United States Supreme Court, is seriously ill at his residence in Washington, and his friends are very much alarmed at his condition.

The new extradition treaty between France and the United States was signed Friday, by M. Ribot, foreign minister, and Mr. Whitelaw Reid, American minister.

A train was derailed, Wednesday, at Sonsonate, fifty miles southwest of San Salvador, on A. C. A. Jutta Railroad. Thirteen persons were killed and 31 wounded.

Two thousand men, women and children and 100 hounds participated in a wolf hunt in Hudson county, Ill., on Friday. Two wolves were killed, one by a young woman and the other by a dog and a child.

Prof. Wm. R. Ware, of Columbia College New York city, was run over by a horse and wagon, driven by Max Schatz, Thursday night, and received injuries which will probably cause death. Schatz was arrested.

At Lowell, Mass., Monday, Judge Braley instructed the jury to return a verdict for the defendant in the case of Lee vs. Boston & Maine road. Mrs. Lee was killed on the road, and her heirs sued for $20,000.

Bishop Jones, a noted colored preacher, was killed in Allendale, S. C., Thursday night. He was shot dead while in the pulpit by some person outside the church, who fired through the window. The murderer escaped and there is no clue.

The third dividend in favor of the creditors of the Maverick National Bank, of Boston, will be declared on Friday of this week. The amount has not yet been determined, but will not be less than 10 per cent., and may rise to 15 per cent.

At a mass meeting of the Bethel African Methodist church, in Chicago, Sunday, to protest against recent southern outrages, F. L. Barnett declared that 10,000 colored people had met unlawful and violent deaths since their emancipation.

Edward M. Field, the insane banker, left Ludlow street jail, New York, Friday evening, in charge of three officers for Buffalo, where he will be placed in the State Insane Asylum. Mr. Field appeared unconscious of where he was going and talked but little. None of his relatives were present.

The condition of the children in the famine districts of Russia, is desperate, and many of them maddened from pangs of hunger. They greedily ate whatever rags fell into their possession and when the rags failed them they actually devoured quantities of earth. Those who were able to survive these terrible conditions were in most miserable plight.

Jeremiah Cotto, the murderer of Louis Frank Elozo, was executed in the electrical chair at Sing Sing, N. Y., at 10.55 o'clock Monday morning. He went to his death calmly and firmly. The execution of the poor wretch was attended with more horrible scenes than any hanging could afford. The body presented a shocking sight.

The Paris police Wednesday discovered a regular bomb factory in an anarchist dwelling, situated in the St. Denis quarter. All the articles used in making explosive machines were found, including a quantity of dynamite and powder, and a number of fuses and bomb casings. Several arrests, in connection with the seizure, have been made, and it is supposed the persons taken into custody are the perpetrators of the dynamite outrages which have occurred recently.

At the small town of Centreton, New Jersey, Miss Kittie Peacock, aged 16, lies in a critical condition at her home, suffering from blood poisoning, the result of a cat bite on the thumb, received over a week ago. Her right arm is much swollen, and a large abscess has formed just below the shoulder. She is the daughter of James Peacock, a small farmer, living on the outskirts of the village. The young woman was delirious last week, and it required the combined efforts of her father and brother to hold her in bed.

Mary Haywood has been living in the woods near St. Meding, Texas, like a wild animal for the last six years, and during all that time has never slept under a roof. She wore a dress made of reeds and leaves, and has lived principally on pecan nuts, although she would make nocturnal raids on smoke houses and steal meat, which she devoured raw. She would never permit any one to come near her, and the people of that section tolerated her presence only on her thieving operations, when they captured her through strategy. She has been pronounced insane by a jury.

The contest on the will of Mr. Fayerweather, in New York, was ended Monday. Mr. Fayerweather died November 18, 1891. He left a will and four codicils giving his widow the family residence and an income of $15,000 yearly. About $2,195,000 was left to hospitals and colleges, and by the last codicil the residue of the estate over $2,000,000 was left to the executors. They intended to carry out his wishes and donate this sum to certain colleges and hospitals that he had named. The case has been settled by increasing the widow's allowance. Bowdoin College, under the will, receives $100,000.

The Senate in secret session Friday afternoon, reached a practical agreement to ratify the Behring Sea arbitration treaty with the provision that the ratification shall not take effect until an agreement has been reached on the modus vivendi issue. No formal action was taken on the treaty and it went over until Monday, in order that absent senators might be notified to be present on that day. The treaty was duly ratified on Tuesday. After the executive session the Senate adopted resolutions offered by Mr. Stanford and the business of the Senate was suspended to enable the House to act upon the late Senator Hearst of California, who died in March, 1891, to pay a proper tribute of respect to his high character and distinguished and public services.

The surviving 12 of the 13 trees symbolic of the 13 original States, planted by Alexander Hamilton, are to be preserved. They stand on property that belonged to the Amos Cutting estate New York city, which was sold last week. Hamilton's residence, "The Grange," stood sixty-five years. The rectory of St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Church. Many feared that some real estate man would buy the land and cut down the historic trees to make room for buildings; but Orlando B. Potter bought all the land on which the trees stand, no matter what the price might be. Mr. Potter is a member of the Sons of Revolution, but he said he had not bought the trees for the Sons of the Revolution, but that they might not be destroyed. Two years before Aaron Burr killed him in the duel at Weehawken, Gen. Hamilton planted the 13 trees. The tallest is 100 feet high and three feet in diameter. Singularly, New York is the tallest and Rhode Island the smallest.

Maine Agricultural News.

Some of 400 cows are now pledged for the butter factory at Bethel. 100 more are needed. It is thought they can be secured.

—Mr. Ira J. Porter of Houlton, has a flock of twenty-five ewes, which he bred to a pure blooded Cotswold buck lamb; seventeen of these have had thirty-four lambs. He had ten lambs come in on one day from four sheep. He has not lost a lamb, so far, nor had any that required nursing in any way.

—Houlton potatoes take the lead in the Boston market and are quoted at 5 cents a bushel higher than any other kind—40 cents more per barrel than Western potatoes.

—W. A. Monroe, of Poor's Mills, is getting timber to enlarge his barn, as he is crowded for want of room by the many cows he now has on hand.

—Mr. H. L. Horne of Norway, whose fine herd of Jerseys were noted in the *Farmer* last fall, has seventeen head in his barn this winter, all of them fine animals. He has been feeding corn ensilage the past winter with much satisfaction as to results. The cows have made a good cream record and with less grain feed than formerly and were never in better condition than at the present time.

Your Blood

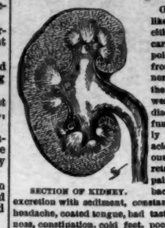
Undoubtedly needs a thorough cleansing this season to expel impurities, keep up the health-tone and prevent disease. You should take Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best blood purifier and system tonic. It is unequalled in positive medicinal merit.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable, perfectly harmless, effective, but do not cause pain or gripe. Be sure to get Hood's.

The average life of a coin is twenty-one years. The coinage of silver is the most profitable.

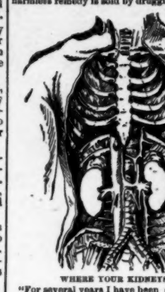
OUR KIDNEYS IN SPRING.

All Ought to Know These Facts.



SECTION OF KIDNEY.

Our kidneys act like the drains under cities, to collect and carry away waste or poisonous materials from the body. The nerves which control them often become weakened, irritated, diseased. Then the function is imperfectly performed, urie acid and other poisonous substances are retained, causing pain and weakness in back, high colored



WHERE YOUR KIDNEYS ARE.

excretion with sediment, constant desire to void, headache, coated tongue, bad taste, thirst, biliousness, constipation, cold feet, poor circulation, extreme nervousness and weak and tired feelings. The Grip has left thousands with weak and diseased kidneys, which should not be neglected. *These conditions are especially dangerous and must be cured now or alarming kidney and liver disease will surely follow.* The spring is the worst time for kidney complaints. Everybody who has the slightest touch of kidney disease should, especially in the spring, take Dr. Greene's Nervura, which not only perfectly regulates the kidneys, liver, stomach and bowels, but gives strength and vitality to blood and nerves. This pure, vegetable, harmless remedy is sold by druggists, $1.

"For several years I have been suffering from a complication of malaria, kidney and liver complaints and dyspepsia in its worst form. I began taking Dr. Greene's Nervura. I have used six bottles, and now feel entirely relieved of all my former complaints, and do cheerfully recommend it to anyone who may be afflicted with any of the above troubles. MRS. CHAS. KRUEGER, 530 East 84th St., New York."

☞ Dr. Greene, the successful specialist in curing all forms of nervous and chronic diseases, 84 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., can be consulted *free*, personally, or by letter. Call or write to him about your case, or send for symptom blank to fill out, and a letter fully explaining your disease, giving advice, etc., will be returned free.

The Markets.

Report of Watertown and Brighton Live Stock Market.

[Specially Reported for the Maine Farmer.]

LIVE STOCK YARDS, March 29, 1892.

Names of Drovers.	Hogs.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Veals.
AT WATERTOWN—Nos.				
AT BRIGHTON.				
Gilnes & Weston,	20			
C. E. Hanson,	8	24	30	
J. M. Philbrook,	19		33	
I. C. Libby & Son,	7		34	
I. C. Littlefield,	15		9	
F. W. Thompson,	16		11	
J. S. F. Jones,	13		16	

THE AGGREGATE OF LIVE STOCK AT WATERTOWN AND BRIGHTON YARDS.

Cattle, 3913; sheep, 6202; hogs, 32,299; veals, 1671; horses, 602.

MAINE STOCK AT MARKET.

Cattle, 96; veals, 133; horses, 84.

CATTLE EXPORTS FOR OLD ENGLAND.

The total of cattle exported for Boston during the week was 3849 head, with a decline of ¼c. Quotation at Liverpool at 10@10½c., dressed weight, sinking the offal.

POSITION OF THE TRADE.

Dealers not very enthusiastic over the trade in cattle. The disposal was not all satisfactory. Cattle still selling at the low sales of last week, which look small, when compared with sales a year ago. We quote up road cattle at 3¾@5¾c., dressed weight, with a few fancy at 6@6½c.

Sheep and lamb business continues unchanged, with a fair trade for all northern flocks, with sales at 2½@5½c. for old sheep; 5@7¾c. for lambs, as to quality.

Fat hog market has varied considerably from the rates of last week. Western live lots are numerous, there being within the week 379 double deck car loads of hogs arrived from the West, with a total of 34,215 head. We quote Western at 4½@5¼c., live weight, and country lots at 6¼c., dressed weight.

Veal Calves—Increased supply; arrivals of nearly 1700 head to-day; rather more than at Watertown than at Brighton. We quote the veal calf market at a decline of ¼@¾c. per lb., and not likely to advance next week. Sales at 2½@5¾c., unless very fancy.

Milch Cows—The business somewhat limited in its proportions. Good cows sell fairly well, but common cows dull and low. Sales at $25@$35 for common grades, $40 @$48 for extra, and $50@$70 for fancy cows.

Live Poultry—Light arrivals, with sales at 10@12c per lb.

Horse Trade—Dealers are a little more encouraged, there being a quicker movement, and good drivers and draft are selling at satisfactory prices. We quote common horses at $80@$125; fair grades for driving or business, $135@$160; nice drivers and draft, $165@$300.

SALES OF MAINE STOCK.

We did not learn of Gilnes & Weston selling any of their carload of working oxen; Mr. Gilnes put them on the market as a test, weather to market more. J. S. P. Jones sold 3 milch cows, for $115; 1 milch cow, $28 50. C. E. Hanson sold 30 calves, at 5c. lb. J. M. Philbrook sold 33 calves, also at 5c. lb. I. C. Libby & Son 34 head at 5c. average 115 lbs., also 3 cows, at $33 each. J. M. Philbrook sold 1 pair working oxen, girthing 6 ft. 10 in., live weight 2600 lbs., at $135; 1 pair girthing 6 ft. 1o in., live weight 2800 lbs., at $130; 1 pair 6 ft. 7 in., live weight 3600 lbs., at $98.

REMARKS.

There is no let up of cattle from the west. Cattle and western dressed beef are of great advantage to railroad corporations by way of freight. The two commodities fill the market, and do not seem to leave a space for our New England cattle dealers to weigh cattle in any sort of a way, to our advantageous. We have it from hearsay that these Western cattle raisers are not making a fortune, which if such is founded on facts, why! there will be a change in the programme and we will have a chance to sell some cattle instead of giving them away. We can raise lambs and calves which pay for their raising as well as hogs which always find a ready market. Our live stock raisers need not complain, as they can shift from the raising one kind of stock to another, as they find it to their advantage. We find every week a few spring lambs in market, such as weigh 60 to 62 lbs. selling from $5@$12 a head. We mean lambs of a few months old, born in midwinter.

LATE SALES AT BRIGHTON LAST WEDNESDAY.

A fair accumulation of milch cows at market, of which Maine was fairly represented. The trade could not be called active. It being a rainy day not the usual number of buyers present, and the movement was in rather a slow way. For good cows fair prices were obtained. S. H. Wardwell sold 3 extra quality of milk cows at $40 per head. G. Hallowell sold 2 extra new milch cows at $40 each. I. C Libby & Son sold 3 springers at $35 each. J. W. Hayden gave us the sale of a fine milker of grade Ayrshire and Jersey, a good cow as has been at market for a long time. She was brought to market by Frank Wood of New Hampshire, resold to C. E. Hayden, who sold her for $75, was rented to give 23 qts. of milk per day, and would probably over-run that amount. Mr. Hayden also sold 3 cows at $45 each; 2 at $50 each; 1 at $35. W. W. Hall sold 1 milch cow at $40. J. Melloy sold a new milch cow, (Ayrshire,) at $48; 2 cows at $45 each; 2 at $42 and $38.

Working Oxen—The call limited. J. D. Hosmer sold 1 pair working oxen, girthing 7 ft., 4 in., live weight 3400 lbs., at $125; 1 pair girthing 7 ft., live weight 3240 lbs., at $120; 1 pair girthing 6 ft., 10 in., live weight 2800 lbs., at $115.

Chicago Live Stock Market.

TUESDAY, March 29.

CATTLE—Receipts 6000; shipments 3500; steady; good to choice steers at 5 25@4 75; others at 3 2@4 20; stockers 2 00@3 40; Texans 3 40@3 45;—cows at 1 4@3 00.

Hogs—receipts 18,000; shipments 7000; opened stronger and closed lower; rough and common 4 10@4 35; packing and mixed at 4 00@4 35; prime, heavy and butchers' weights 4 37¾@4 90; light 4 75@4 90; pigs 4 50@4 70.

Sheep—receipts 6000; shipments 2500; steady; lambs lower; ewes 4 00@5 25; mixed at 5 00@5 50; Westerns 5 80@6 25; wethers 6 00@6 60.

Lambs 5.50@6 80.

"For a long time I suffered with stomach and liver troubles, and could find no relief until I began to use Ayer's Pills. I took them regularly for a few months, and my health was completely restored."—D. W. Baine, New Berne, N. C.

The Executive Council has granted a conditional pardon to William Cole of Piscataquis county, now serving a life sentence in Thomaston for rape. He has already served some sixteen years.

Boston Market.

TUESDAY, March 29.

FLOUR AND MEAL. There is no improvement in the demand for flour. Buyers hold off and prices are weak. We quote fine and superfine and common extras at $2 80@3 45; extras and seconds at $3 30@4 30; Minnesota bakers, clears and straights, at $4 35@4 90; winter wheat, clears and straights, at $4 50@5 25; winter wheat patents at $4 70@5 35, and spring wheat patents at $4 75@5 35 per bbl. These quotations include jobbers' and millers' prices. Rye flour is steady at $4 50@$5 25 per bbl. Oatmeal is selling at $4 25 per bbl. for cut and fine. There is a quiet market for corn meal. Sales of bag meal at $1 00@$1 05, and barrel meal sells at $2 30@$2 35 for choice kiln dried. Granulated meal sells at $3 25 @3 50 per bbl.

GRAIN. Corn has ruled quiet and the sales are light, with little offering on the spot. Steamer yellow on track is quoted at 54¼@54½c, and steamer mixed at 53½c per bush. For shipment, No 3 yellow corn is quoted at 53½@54c per bush, but very little trading. Oats are about steady on the spot and in quiet demand, with sales of clipped on track at 39@39½c; No 2 white at 38½c, No 3 white at 37½c, per bush. For shipment clipped oats are offered at 39½@40c, and Chicago No 2 white 38¾@ 39c per bush.

MILLFEED. Bran is quiet. For sack spring $19 50@19 75 per ton is quoted, and winter at $20 50@20 75 per ton. Middlings are quoted at $20@22 per ton in sacks. Canada bran sells at $20 50 per ton in bulk. Cotton seed meal is steady at $24 50@24 75 per ton for shipment and $25 50@25 75 on the spot.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE. There is no more than a moderate trade in butter, and the market is far from all speculative influence, but it has a strong undertone, because stocks are small, and receipts from day to day are kept cleaned up. Boston prices yesterday were 28@29 cents for finest fresh creamery, the outside for special brands. Several sellers said that they found it difficult to get over 28¾ cents for any kind in a large way, and that a large portion of second-class butter sold at 25½@ 27 cents. Held Northern creamery was selling moderately at 23@24 cents, and Western at 20@22 cents. New dairy lots, as they arrive, command 26@28 cents, but few are good enough to command over 24@ 25 cents. Common butter under 28 cents is in small stock. In a jobbing way the trade are selling at 28@32 cents.

Cheese values are no more than maintained. The highest that can be quoted for a trade lot is 12¼ cents, and it might be difficult to get over 12¼ cents if a sale were forced. Under grades are selling at 10 to 11¾ cents, but in light supply.

The egg situation is as critical as ever. Yesterday, special marks sold at 13½ cents, but 13 to 13¼ cents was the ruling rate, with 14 cents for small lots of Eastern.

The bean market has gained strength under the influence of lighter receipts, and $1 80 per bushel is the lowest price named for best medium and large pea, but buyers have not yet begun to take hold, and the market remains quiet.

Sample sugar is not arriving in large quantities and 11 to 12 cents per pound can be obtained for small lots, but this rate will not be maintained when supplies increase. New syrup of full 10 to 11 pounds to a gallon is worth 60 to 85 cents per gallon, but old and light is dull at 30 to 50 cents.

HAY. There has been a fair trade in hay for several days past and prices are steady. Sales of choice Canada and New York at $18@$19, and Eastern at $16@$17 per ton. Rye straw in fair request at $13@$14 per ton.

Augusta City Market.

CORRECTED WEEKLY FOR THE MAINE FARMER.

WEDNESDAY, March 30.

APPLES—Greenings, Baldwins, and good winter fruit, $1 25@$1 50 per bbl.

BEANS—Pea beans $2 00; Yellow Eyes $1 90.

BUTTER—Ball Butter 16@20c. Creamery 25@28c.

CHEESE—Factory and domestic new 12@ 14c.

COTTON SEED MEAL—$1 50 per cwt.

EGGS—Fresh, 12@14c, per dozen.

FLOUR—St. Louis $6 00@6 25; Patent 6 50.

GRAIN—Corn 75c; oats 50c; barley 65c; Rye $1 25.

HAY—Loose $12@14; pressed $14@16

STRAW—$7 75@8.

HIDES AND SKINS—Cow hides, 3c, dividing on 90 lbs.; ox hides, 4½c; bulls and stags, 2½c.

LIME AND CEMENT—Lime $1 10 per cask; cement $1 75.

LARD—Tierce 7½c; in tins, 8@8½c.

MEAL—Corn 68c; rye 90@1 00.

SHORTS—$1 20@1 25 per hundred.

PROVISIONS—Pork clear and mess 8@9c; beef per side 5@7c; ham 10@ 11c; fowls, 12@14c; chickens, 16@17c; mutton, 7@8c; lamb, 8@10c; veals, 8@9c; turkeys, 18@20c; round hog, 7c.

VEGETABLES—Potatoes, 35@40 cents per bu.; cabbages, $1.50 per hundred; beets 50c per bu.; turnips, 35@40c per bu.; squash $2.00 per hundred.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, March 30.

APPLES—No. 1 Baldwins, $1 75@2 00; eating, $2 25@2 50 per barrel; evaporated 8@10c per lb.

BUTTER—20@21 for choice family; creamery, 26@28c.

BEANS—Pea, $2 00@$2 15; Yellow Eyes, $1 90@2 05.

CHEESE—Maine and Vermont Factory, 12½@14c; N. Y. Factory, 13@14c.

FLOUR—Superfine, $4 75@$5 00; Spring X and XX, $5 00@5 25; Roller Michigan, $5 75@6 87; St. Louis Winter Patents, $5 75@6 25.

FISH—Cod Shore, $6 75@7 00; Scaled herring per box, 14@18c; Mackerel, shore, extra, $24 00@26 00.

GRAIN—Sharp lots, 58@59; oats, 42@43; cotton seed, car lots, $26 50@27 00; cotton seed, bag lots, $28 00@29 00; sacked bran, car lots, $21 00@22 00; sacked bran, bag lots, $23 00@24 00; middlings, car lots, $22 00@25 00; middlings, bag lots, $23 00 @26 00.

LARD—Per tierce, 6@7¾c per lb; per pail, 6¾@7¾c; pail, 6¾@11c.

PROVISIONS—Fowl, 13@14c; chickens, 15@17c; turkeys, 17@19c; eggs, 15@ 17c; potatoes per bush., 35@45c; extra beef, $8 00@8 25; pork, backs, $15 25 @16 00; clear, $15 00@15 25; hams, 10¼ @10¾c; covered, 11@11¾c.

Bangor Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, March 30.

APPLES—40@45c per bushel.

BEANS—Yellow Eyes, $2 00 per bush.; hand picked Pea, $2 50@2 75.

BUTTER—Best, 23@25c per lb.; fair to good, 20@22c.

EGGS—14c per doz.

CHEESE—Best factory, per lb., (new) 12 @13c; best dairy, per lb., (new) 12@ 13c.

GRAIN—Oats, prime country, 48c per bushel.

HAY—$10 50@11 per ton; best bales, $12 @13.

CORN—63c; meal, 58c.

POTATOES—Best quality per bushel, 35.

PROVISIONS—Pork, round hog, per lb., 6½c. Chickens, 15@17c; Fowl per lb., 13@14c; Turkeys, 20c.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, March 29.

United States Bonds, New 4s, (reg.),		116
" " 4s (coup.)		117
" " 2s (reg.)		100
Central Pacific 1sts,		106½

Editor's Table.

Those who will get *Harper's Magazine* for April will find that this standard publication still keeps up its high reputation. The articles are all of a most interesting character, and even a brief mention of them would fill a half column in the *Farmer*. Published by Harper Brothers, New York city.

The Cosmopolitan, that superb magazine published in New York city, is out for April, and exceeds even itself in illustrated articles. The popularity of this publication is growing every month, as shown by the increased circulation. Terms $1.00 a year.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. The numbers of *The Living Age* for the weeks ending 19th and 26th of March, 1892, contain The Greatness of Pitt; A Head-ful of Lead; Our Minor Poets; The Health Laws of the Bible; Conversations and Correspondence with Thomas Carlyle; An Estimate of Mozart, and Troubles in Egypt and the Late Khedive; The Brownies, by Mrs. Andrew Lang; Memoirs of Sir Charles Napier; Faganiniana, and on Dutch Canals; A Leading Republic, and Literary Coincidences; The Duke of York, with the Queen's servant in Cologne," and "Sir Michael," by Sir Frederick Pollock, and poetry.

Wide Awake for April is a veritable Easter number. In its pictures, in its stories, in its poems, the Easter spirit predominates, and while there is the usual variety in its material, as suits the wide range of desire that makes up the taste of young people, this Easter flavor is at once pronounced and timely, and makes this April number quite as acceptable a remembrance at the Easter season as the conventional card or booklet. Meyrelle's frontispiece, "Easter Day," Burgess' full-page "Easter Lily," Garrett's stirring grounding picture, are fitting accompaniments to Miss Poulsson's charming verses, "The Flowers' Easter Message," to Miss Branson's delightful story of an Easter lily, and to Elbridge S. Brooks' spirited Easter day ballad of crusading days, "Pilgrim's Amaryle's Amulet." Other timely sketches are given in this complete number of this charming periodical.

WEDDING BELLS. Mr. Edwin E. Taylor and Mrs. Georgie A. Cottle of Augusta were united in marriage at her home in North Augusta, March 26, at nine o'clock P. M. The marriage ceremony was performed by H. L. Crockett, after which Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and her sister Mrs. H. L. Clement, took the Pullman train for the West.

Are free from all crude and irritating matter. Concentrated medicine only. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Very small; very easy to take; no pain; no griping; no purging. Try them.

Married.

In this city, March 27, by Rev. H. L. Crockett, Mr. Leroy A. Page of Sidney to Esther J. Cummings of Belgrade.

In Buckfield, March 19, Fred L. Chesley to Ellen Louise Murdock.

In Belfast, March 19, Ira Maurice Cobe, Esq., of Boston, to Annie Elizabeth Watts of Belfast.

In Brooks, March 26, Herbert M. Cole to Dora L. Small, both of Brooks.

In Chelsea, Mass., March 19, J. William Lucas of Somerville, to Estella Higgins of Chelsea.

In Caribou, March 16, David Seabury of Fort Fairfield, to Nettie B. Annis of Caribou.

In Dexter, March 16, Harry L. Tilson to Mary E. Pierce.

In East Pittston, March 19, Geo. H. Huntington of Gardiner, to Minnie Weymouth of Whitefield.

In Kilsworth, March 14, Charles L. Merrill of Dedham, to Abbie M. McInnis of Kilsworth.

In Kilsworth Falls, March 16, Melvin J. Lyman to Maude E. Witham, both of Kilsworth.

In Farmingdale, March 19, Walter L. Foster of Farmingdale, to Mrs. Eliza J. Boynton of Gardiner.

In Franklin, March 17, Henry C. Harvey to Mary D. Brown, both of Franklin.

In Freeman, March 15, Arthur L. Stevens of Freeman to Lucy H. Hatch of Carthage.

In Fort Fairfield, March 23, Rael William Philbrick, Jr., to Mary Ann Truedell, both of Fort Fairfield.

In Gardiner, March 19, William J. Johnson to Mrs. Mary E. Swift, both of Gardiner.

In Gorham, March 19, Guy H. Cressey of Gorham, to Hattie B. Whitney of Standish.

In Houlton, March 23, Albert T. Carson to Mrs. Amanda Neal, both of Houlton.

In Holbrook, March 17, George H. Jennings to Lizzie E. Wild, both of Holbrook.

In Harrington, March 7, Hailes H. Colson to Gertrude Randall; March 9, Charles E. White to Myra W. Coffin.

In Kenduskeag, Harry R. McDonald of Glenburn, to Adwina C. Flagg of Hudson.

In Lamoine, March 19, John G. Merrow to Elizabeth B. Sheaf, both of Lamoine.

In Lewiston, March 19, Willard F. Dyer, to Celia E. Chandler, both of Lewiston.

In Ludlow, March 19, Sewell Cummings of Ludlow, to Mrs. Anna Howe of Monticello.

In Lisbon Falls, March 21, James H. Eacott to Emma F Holland, both of Lisbon Falls.

In Mechanic Falls, March 15, Almon Chaplin to Mrs. Jennie S. Merriam, both of Poland.

In North Windsor, March 9, of pneumonia, Edward W. Foster of Canton, 35; 24 cents per lb.

In Newcastle, March 11, Capt. Enoch Jones, aged 80 years, 6 months; March 13, Alexander Teague, aged 82 years, 8 months.

In North Richmond, N. B., March 19, after a lingering illness, Jane Ann Taylor, aged 68 years. Baird, aged 84 years. Also on the 22d inst., James Baird, in the 90th year of his age.

In Rockland, March 22, Susan Reed, wife of Miles Vannah, and daughter of the late Samuel A. Rollins, aged 67 years, 7 months.

In North Lubec, March 21, Adiah D. Huckins, aged 60 years.

In Naples, March 21, Christina, wife of Nath'l Lord, aged about 74 years.

In Bath, March 25, Mary M., widow of the late William McKenney, aged 78 years, 6 months; March 23, George Denning Rolfe; March 24, Mehitable, widow of the late Andrew P. Naylor, aged 87 years, 3 months; March 19, Catherine, widow of the late Bernard McGoldrick, aged 75 years; March 24, Ethel M., daughter of Edward and Ida Edward McCarty, aged 15 years, 11 months; March 23, Albion K. P. Dunning, aged 66 years, 6 months.

In Bangor, March 25, William L. Baker, aged 72 years; March 22, Martha W. Hews, widow of the late Cyrus Hews, aged 81 years, 8 months; March 22, Mrs. Emily P., wife of T. H. Getchell; March 20, Israc Witham, aged 76 years, 2 months; March 21, Mrs. Mary Ann Trussell, aged 73 years; March 19, Susan J. Furinton, aged 27 years, 10 months.

In Belfast, March 17, Mary Ann Trussell, aged 73 years, 11 months; March 16, Frank E., son of Ambrose Wellman, aged 6l years, 4 months.

In Buckfield, March 14, Mrs. Phebe M., wife of D. B. Record, aged 65 years; March 16, David B. Record, aged 86 years; March 19, Mrs. Vesta V. Wood, aged 25 years.

In Brooks, March 21, Mary Fogg; March 23, Sarah P. Fogg, aged about 80 years.

In Boothbay, March 15,

Poetry.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Pride of Time.

Far far away in foreign lands,
Upon the shore a mother stands,
And stretches toward the West her hands.

"My child is there," I hear her say,
"A thousand leagues or more away;
He went four years ago to-day.

"Between us stormy oceans lie;
He crossed those seas his strength to try,
While I remain behind to die.

"He is a son to my delight,
With brain and body great in might,
And ever mindful of the right.

"They tell me he is greater far
Than those who staid behind to war,
And nothing his success can mar.

"God bless my son across the sea;
Though many, many years to be,
May he remain a pride to me."

'Twas Time who spoke thus from the strand;
Her son, our own proud native land,
The grandest child reared by her hand.

J. CLAIR MINOT.

Our Story Teller.

SALLY ANN'S EXPERIENCE.

In the days when little girls wore pantalets concealing their ankles, and sunbonnets overshadowing their faces, and were early taught the lesson that "children should be seen and not heard," Sally Ann and Mary Louisa Parker sat on the stone steps of the horse-block in their father's back yard, making cattle out of milk weed pods.

Sally Ann was whittling pegs from a pine stick with a butcher knife she had taken from the pantry shelf when no one had noticed her; and Mary Louisa was sticking them into the pods for legs, ears or tail, as the case required.

They were dressed exactly alike, in red calico dresses, high necked, long sleeved dark aprons, nankeen pantalets, white cotton stockings of their grandmothers' knitting, shoes tied with leather strings, and green gingham sun-bonnets.

Sally Ann was thin and sallow, with light blue eyes, straight, brown hair, and an unhappy disposition.

Mary Louisa was chubby and dimpled and rosy checked, with dark blue eyes, and dark brown, curly hair, and the sweetest disposition in the world.

Sally Ann loved Mary Louisa, and Mary Louisa thought wisdom would die with Sally Ann; so they got along amiably together.

The world was a great puzzle to Sally Ann in more ways than one. She could not understand why Miss Potter, the dairy woman, should always call her a "little Nimshi" when she went out the cheese room to beg her for a piece of curd.

This particular morning, however, she was not thinking of Cain, Pharaoh, or even Nimshi, but meridian lines.

There was a picture in her geography of a sphere encircled with lines; underneath was the legend, "Meridian Lines." Sally Ann had looked at it many a time, and also the maps with black lines on them.

She had learned that the "equator was an imaginary line encircling the earth at equal distance from the poles"—and she really thought there were, actually, poles sticking out at each end of the earth, and the equator a great black line around the centre, the word "imaginary" conveying no meaning to her mind.

And one day overhearing the teacher say there was a meridian line through every place, she determined to find the one that went through the place where she lived.

Perhaps you wonder Sally Ann did not ask her mother all these things she wanted so much to know about; but it was a law that children in those days were to be "seen, not heard;" besides, Mrs. Parker did not have time to answer questions, or even to "kiss the place" when the children got hurt.

The day before the school the teacher asked one of the big boys if the sun had crossed the meridian line.

The boy looked at one of the desks in which was whittled a deep gash that Sally Ann had always heard was called the "noon mark," and said it had.

So that "noon mark" was a meridian line. She ran out of doors as soon as school was out and looked carefully in the grass under the window where the sun struck first with the gash in it was situated, but no line was there.

Her mind was full of it as she sat on the horse-block, whittling out legs and ears and tails for horses, cows and sheep, and she said to Mary Louisa:

"I wish I could find a meridian line."

Mary Louisa opened her eyes very wide and asked:

"What is a meridian line?"

"Why," said Sally Ann, "it is a black line that was put on the earth, when the world was made, to tell when it was noon, so people could go to dinner. But I expect the world has been made so long that the grass has grown all over the lines."

"How long has the world been made?" asked Mary Louisa.

"Why, 6000 years ago, or more. Don't you remember hearing me say the verse I learnt in my jography?"

> The earth, the firmament on high,
> With all the blue, ethereal sky,
> Was made by God in powder,
> Six thousand years ago or more.

"What is the firmament?" asked Mary Louisa.

"It is the tops of the trees waving in the wind," said Sally Ann, with a positive air that seemed to forbid any questioning on the subject, even had Mary Louisa been so inclined, which she was not; she always accepted Sally Ann's statements as undisputed facts.

"Sally Ann! Mary Louisa!" called their mother from the back door.

"O, dear, I suppose the baby has waked up," said Sally Ann, "and now we shall have to take care of him. I don't believe we shall ever finish these cattle."

"You know," said Mary Louisa, "that mother said we might go and see Jany Stebbins this afternoon if we were good girls."

"Yes," said Sally Ann, scornfully, "but we shan't have much time to play, for mother will make us take our knitting work. You know we have got to knit 12 times across, but yours is only a garter, and mine is a stocking."

"There, children," said Mrs. Parker, one of you must rock the baby, and the other must amuse Joey and Johnny, or they won't make a noise and wake him up."

"I will rock the baby," said Sally Ann, "and then I can begin my knitting"—the baby was asleep in the red wooden cradle —"and you can take Josy and Johnny out of doors, but don't let 'em tear up our cattle."

Mary Louisa gave a little sigh as she invited the two smutty-faced youngsters out into the yard, but she never thought of refusing any request of Sally Ann's.

Sally Ann took her knitting work, which was about six inches of stocking leg, much begrimmed and rough, with pulling out and knitting over, and sat down at the foot of the cradle and began to rock the baby, and also to make up her mind to go in search of that meridian line the first opportunity that presented itself.

Immediately after dinner Susan helped them to get ready to go up to spend the afternoon.

The shoes changed, hair combed, with pink calico dresses, clean white aprons and pantalets on, knitting work tightly rolled up in their pockets, and their sun-bonnets on their heads, they were ready to start.

Their mother came to the door to see them off and tell them to be good girls, and not soil their pantalets, and to be sure and come home at exactly 4 o'clock.

"I am going to knit all the way there," said Sally Ann, "so when I get there I can play all the time."

After a while she felt a little twitch given to her yarn, and looking down exclaimed, "Oh, dear, my ball is way back there. It dropped out of my pocket."

Throwing down the knitting work, she ran back after the ball and began to wind it up, and she and Mary Louisa laughed heartily to see the stocking leg, with the needles in it, come skipping towards them over the stones and bushes.

But when Sally Ann picked it up there were only three needles in it.

They looked and looked, but they could not find the fourth needle.

"I am afraid mother will scold," said Mary Louisa.

"I suppose she will," said Sally Ann, "but I cannot help it, and I shan't have to knit any more this afternoon, and I am going to leave it here in the road until we come back."

So saying she rolled it up, stuck the needles carefully into the ball and tucked it away in a hole in the stone wall; and it was never seen again, though Mary Louisa's children looked for it more than 25 years afterward.

Jany ran out to meet them as soon as she saw them coming, and told them that her mother had made some cookies in the shape of hearts, with caraway seeds in them and sugar sprinkled on the outside of them, and they could each have two; her mother said so.

She also told them that a rat had come into their bedroom the night before and had carried off one of her sister Martha's stockings, dragged it down under the floor through a knot hole. She wanted the girls to come right upstairs and see the hole.

Mary Louise thought she ought not to go until she had knit six times across her garter, and Mrs. Stebbins said she was a dear, good little girl, and she would be glad of her company until she had done her "stent."

Sally Ann and Jany went upstairs to see the hole.

"I suppose," said Jany, "the rat is in there now."

"Why don't you drown him out?" said Sally Ann.

"How?" asked Jany.

"Why, pour water into the hole until he comes out. That is the way Jim Payne catches woodchucks."

"Let's," said Jany.

So they went to work, Jany with a tin dipper and Sally Ann with an old teapot, until they were startled by a scream from Jany's sister Martha, who was entertaining her beau in the room directly under the hole in the floor.

And in a moment Martha came running up the stairs, saying, "I should like to know what you young one's are up to now?"

"We are drowning out the rat," said Jany.

"Well, you beat the Dutch," said Martha. "Don't you know the water will soak right through the ceiling? I don't know but it has spoilt the ceiling in the parlor now. You deserve a good whipping, both of you."

Sally Ann and Jany dropped their watering-pots, and fled from the presence of the irate Martha.

"Let's go down to the ledge," said Sally Ann to Jany, and they were soon scampering across the lot behind the barn to the ledge, from the top of which they could look down into an eight-acre swamp lot, and right across the farther end of it was a long, straight, black ditch.

As soon as Sally Ann saw that ditch she knew she had found out where the meridian line was that ran through the place where she lived, and she determined to go and see just exactly what it was like. So she said to Jany:

"Let's climb down the ledge."

"O! no," said Jany. You will be killed if you do, and I am going straight home to tell mother."

"You are a 'fraid cat," said Sally Ann.

"I ain't a 'fraid cat, neither," said Jany, "but I am going home just the same;" and away she ran.

Sally Ann, with the spirit of Columbus stirring within her, began the descent of the ledge of rocks, and reached the bottom with a not very large tear in her pink dress, and only one green spot on her clean, white apron.

Then she sat down on a stone, and with a good deal of labor, took off her shoes and stockings, and, mindful of her mother's parting command, rolled up her pantalets and started resolutely toward the ditch.

For a while she went on very well. She was light and sprang from bog to bog without getting wet at all; tho' the coarse grass and briers did hurt her feet sorely.

But she soon came to a place where there were no bogs. It was all smooth, with tall grass growing up straight out of the soft mud.

When she stepped off the last bog, down she went in black mud up to her knees.

She might as well have left her pantalets down; they were all mud now. She felt as though she must cry. She almost wished she had not come. Why was it so hard to find out anything?

Still she plunged, and the ditch did not seem one bit nearer than when she started, and the mud grew deeper and deeper

O, dreadful luck! Now she had fallen down. Her clean dress and apron, even her sunbonnet is a sight to behold, so covered with black, slimy mud!

Her mother had whipped her once for getting her pantalets muddy. What punishment would be thought sufficient to expiate the guilt of getting all her clothes muddy? Sally Ann shuddered at the thought. Perhaps she would be cast out, a fugitive and a vagabond, like Cain.

She looked all about her; nothing to be seen but shining, black mud everywhere. She felt so tired and so hungry. She knew it must be supper time.

No doubt Mary Louisa and Jany were eating the heart-shaped cookies, with caraway seeds in them and sugar sprinkled on the outside of them. At home they were having baked beans and brown bread and Indian pudding. She could see them all around the table, happy and clean.

She thought she should soon be dead, and felt a little comfort in thinking of being laid out in the parlor, and having the minister stand over her lying, and all the scholars walk in and look at her, and Mary Louisa clinging to her mother's skirts and crying as Julia Pratt did when her little brother died.

Perhaps Miss Potter would feel sorry she had thrown away her happy family of bugs, and killed her little green snake.

There was a white mist rising all over the swamp. Sally Ann felt so cold, and she could not even see the ditch any longer.

The very next step she took she went in up to her waist, and now she could not move.

A dreadful horror seized her. She remembered the story of an old white horse that was lost in this very swamp, in a "death hole" the story ran.

She thought she felt herself sinking, and screamed at the top of her lungs and with all her remaining strength:

"Mother, mother, mother!"

* * * * * * *

When Jany went back to the house and said Sally Ann had climed down the ledge and started across the swamp, Mrs. Stebbins gave Mary Louisa the two heart-shaped cookies and told her to go home and tell her mother.

When her mother heard the news she raised up both hands and then sank down into a chair and said:

"I don't know what I shall do to that child. She makes me more trouble than all the other children together."

Miss Potter said that if Sally Ann was her young one she would skin her alive.

Susan said she guessed she would get enough of it before she got through that swamp.

Mr. Parker who had just come in to supper, and who had always stood up for Sally Ann when her mother thought she ought to be punished for bringing bugs and worms and snakes into the house, and said he was glad there was going to be one woman who would not be afraid of a mouse, even he now said she deserved a whipping.

This was more than Mary Louisa could bear, and she burst into tears, and flung herself into the cradle, happily at that moment empty of the baby.

They expected every moment to hear Sally Ann coming in with wet feet and dirty pantalets, but she did not come.

When supper was over Mr. Parker started after her with wrath in his heart.

He told Mrs. Parker afterwards that when he came to her little shoes with the stockings tucked into them, they looked so pathetic he almost choked. Said he:

"I never sensed till then what a little creatur she was."

And when he saw through the fog her white sunbonnet sticking up out of the mud, and heard her despairing cry of "Mother, brother, mother," there was in any other feeling in his heart but love and pity.

And when he brought her in, limp and exhausted, and covered with mud, her mother seized upon her and hugged her and kissed her until you would have thought she loved her more than all the other children put together.

Miss Potter brought warm water and washed her as tenderly as though she had never thought of "skinning her alive," and Susan ran after the doctor as fast as her little legs would carry her.

Sally Ann was sick so long after her woful experience in search of a meridian line that everybody had forgotten to wonder why she had gone into the swamp.

And she could not remember anything about her visit to Jany Stebbins or her going into the swamp, or even about the meridian line, until two or three years afterwards, when she was again studying geography, with a full knowledge of the meaning of the word imaginary.

Then it all came back to her, and she knew she had suffered in search of something invisible.

Choice Miscellany.

What a Diver Experienced in His Work on a Wreck.

The ship the divers were sent down to find was discovered finally lying on her port side, the side on which the vessel was above low. Hanging on the sides of the vessel, lying on deck, almost everywhere, were arms, legs, heads and trunks of human bodies. Many of these the fish had eaten clean of flesh, and only the skull and bones remained. The flesh that still remained intact was soft and mushy to the touch, and when touched would fall away from the bones. Many bodies were found whole, the men having met death by drowning. In the starboard rigging stood the skeletons of two men, with the bones of their hands still clenching rattlines. The whole scene was horrible and revolting beyond description.

The greatest obstacle in the work of examining the wreck was because of the fish. There were millions of fish and eels about everywhere. They would thrust through the water, and, magnified by the water and the glass of the diver's helmet, and reflecting rays of the electric light, they looked like thousands of blades of polished silver, differing in size with the several fish.

The diver's hands are bare, and whenever the diver would lay his hands upon the deck of the vessel they would come in contact with dissolving human flesh, and affording a variety of sensations not frequently met with by even a diver.

Among these fish there were numerous sharks, and these were with difficulty kept away from the divers. With one of these a diver had a battle of the first magnitude, wherein he kept the monster off with a pole for a time, and then getting under him as he lay motionless for a few moments after being struck, ripped his belly open with a knife. Other sharks soon appeared and the divers were drawn up.

An effort was then made to clear the fish away before further diving was attempted. A hook was thrown overboard from the diver's tender and a shark was soon caught. The gruesome fish with three prongs curving upward was then brought out, the points of its prongs sharpened flat, like the point of a two-edged sword. A hole was bored in the tail of the shark and the thus sharpened grappling iron fastened to it. Then he was thrown overboard.

The shark immediately went below and joined his friends; he slashed his tail about as a reckless rake and soon had a number of his companions ripped about the sides with the grappling hook. They in turn attacked him, and the fight soon became general, so that there was much commotion evidenced on the surface of the water. When the fight became interesting a dynamite cartridge was sent down from the divers' boats and exploded by electricity. The result was that fish and parts of fish, mangled shark and human remains came up out of the water as though a volcano had broken loose down there.

When all subsided into a calm again the divers once more went below and recommenced their work. No fish were found about there then. They had all been driven away, and they appeared no more that day.

Wit, Humor, and Pleasantries.

An optimist is a man who believes that all eggs will hatch. A pessimist is a man who believes that all chestnuts have worms in them.

When a woman rises to terminate a visit, she has more to say than during her whole stay. In this regard a woman is like a gun, which makes the most noise when it goes off.

First Parishioner: "I think we ought to raise Dr. Thirdly's salary." Second Parishioner: "I don't. He is such a conscientious man that he would feel bound to preach longer sermons."

Hicks: "That was Mr. Biank. Strange you don't know him. His picture has been in all the papers." Wicks: That was probably the reason why I didn't recognize him."

He: "Upon my word, I think I have gone through every experience—except hanging." She: "Cheer up, dear, that may come yet."

This inscription is on a tombstone in a cemetery in New Hampshire (a man was killed by a vicious horse:)

> "As this man was leading her to drink
> She kicked and kill'd him quicker'n a wink."

And this is a child's epitaph, on a tombstone in a New Jersey cemetery:

> "She was not smart, she was not fair,
> But hearts with grief for her are swellin';
> All empty stands her little chair:
> She died of eatin' watermelon."

Men who declare the world owes them a living are usually too lazy to hustle around and collect it.

The other day X., the Bohemian, on receiving some money from a rich uncle, took it into his head to square off some of his most pressing debts. He first called at his tailor's and heard that the poor man had just died. His widow, all in tears, desired to know the visitor's errand. "I have come to pay my bill," he simply replied. "Ah!" sobbed out the widow, "if my poor husband had only lived till this morning, the shock might have brought him round."

On Another Errand. A Vermont Baptist minister who is not too grave and dignified to enjoy a good joke, even when it is on himself, narrates a ludicrous incident of his early life. Soon after being settled over a new congregation, he one day received a note asking him to be at home that evening at eight o'clock. The writer added that he was intending to be married at that hour, and would call at the pastorate with his bride.

It was but a few minutes before eight o'clock when the door-bell rang, and a moment later the servant announced that a young couple awaited the minister in the parlor.

Going down into the parlor, accompanied by his wife, the pastor found a neatly dressed, intelligent appearing young man and a bright looking young woman, who rose to receive him.

"I am Mr. Homer," said the young man, "and this is Miss Cross."

Having another engagement for the evening, the minister said immediately, "I received your note this morning, and we will proceed with the ceremony at once. Please join your right hands."

In great bewilderment, which the minister mistook for natural embarrassment, the young couple timidly clasped hands, and the ceremony was about to begin, when the young man said, "I—we—what ceremony is it?"

"Why, ceremony of marriage, of course."

"O o-o-h!" shrieked the young lady, withdrawing her hand and covering her face with a handkerchief.

"I don't understand this at all," said the young man, sharply. "We came here simply as a committee from the Young People's Society of the Methodist church to ask you and your wife to be present at a public entertainment we are about to give, and—"

It was now the minister's turn to say "O, o-o-h," and he said it in genuine astonishment at the very moment that the maid ushered in the young couple who had "matrimonial intentions."

The mistake evidently started the first young couple into new lines of thought; for a year later, their own pastor being ill, they called upon the Baptist pastor, and did not protest that he was going too far when he again asked them to join hands.

Dog and Fox. The following note of fox cunning is extracted from a Mumford, N. Y. letter to Maj. H. W. Merrill, of this city: "I must tell you about a chase my dog had with an 'old red'—one that had been run before, judging by his actions. It had been thawing all the morning. About 2 P. M. I heard the hound running into a cedar and said: "I don't know what I shall do to that child. She makes me more trouble than all the other children together."

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Young Folks' Column.

Dear Boys and Girls: It has been a long time since I have written for the dear old *Farmer*; and I think the editor is very kind to give us a chance in his paper, and I think that we ought to appreciate it more than we do. I would like to have some girls and boys correspond with me. Well, I will close by sending some verses.

> You are not dead, beloved one,
> But only called away
> From this sad world of grief and tears,
> To a home of cloudless day.
>
> We miss your low, sweet, gentle voice,
> Your gracious, loving smile,
> The light and joy of a pleasant home,
> So free from wrong and guile.
>
> Our hearts repeat the question o'er,
> Oh, why so soon removed,
> You, who were so much needed here,
> So young and so beloved?
>
> Do we not hear the voice of God
> Amid the darkening gloom?
> "I often call the righteous home
> From evil days to come.
>
> "I take the idols of your hearts,
> To win your souls above;
> A loving father's calling them,
> Not in anger, but in love."
>
> Beloved, in the time of grief,
> Your hearts with sorrow riven,
> Oh, be resigned and think of her
> A treasure safe in heaven.
>
> Farewell, dear friend, a long farewell,
> We leave you with the blest;
> No tears can dim your radiant eyes
> When loved ones sink to rest.

RHODA E. BAILEY.

South Springfield.

Dear Boys and Girls: It has been a long time since I wrote for the childeren's column, but will try once more, as some of the little ones who read that column may remember me. I was seven years old when I wrote my first letter. That was two years ago. I am still living with my aunt Julia and uncle Horace Mitchell. Mertie and Allie Mitchell are like brother and sister to me, though they are really no relation to me as they are not aunty's own children. They love me and are good to me, and I love them better than any other boy and girl in the world. Mertie is fifteen and Allie is thirteen years old. We are in the same classes at school and Mertie and I have taken the prize in our spelling class the three last terms of school. Our studies are fifth reader, arithmetic, grammar, geography, spelling and writing. For pets we have two rabbits. One is black and white and the other is clear white. We have a dog whose name is Jacko, and Allie, and I claim a heifer as our own whose name is Bess. She will play catch with us when we let her out in the door yard just as nice as we can play it ourselves. Uncle Horace is wintering four cows, five heifers, two colts, one horse and twenty-one sheep. We have a little heifer calf about two weeks old, and a little lamb two days old. This is the 7th day of March, and I am glad the warm spring days are so soon coming for I long to play out in the fields and in the woods. I think the answer to my cousin Ethel Tibbets riddle is a cow.

LAURA A. TIBBETTS.

Unity.

Dear Mr. Editor: I always read the children's column, but have never written for it. I will try to do so now, however, to please my little cousin, Laura Tibbetts, who has just written, and she says she had so much to say she did not mention the beautiful lake near where we live. I am not a good hand to give a description, but will say that the Winnecook is a source of great pleasure to us all who live on its shores. We not only enjoy looking upon it on a fine summer's day, but we enjoy sailing or rowing out, and with fish hook and line drawing up the black bass and shining white perch from it waters. Then, too, there are the beautiful white water-lilies, which in summer we often gather in bunches as large as a water pail. Laura has written about my papa's stock, and about our studies, so I will simply say that we have had no school in this district during the past winter. We have studied at home, however, and have read a great deal. We take the *Youth's Companion*, papa takes the *Maine Farmer*, and Grandma Knowles, who lives with us, takes the Portland *Transcript*. I was fifteen years old last November. I have been making a rug this winter, and have also done some outlining and knitting.

MERTIE MAY MITCHELL.

Unity.

Dear Editor: It has been some time since I wrote for the *Farmer*, so I thought I would write again. I have many by brother Harry a pair of stockings, and I am knitting me a pair now. We have quite a lot of plants this winter. Our calla lily has a bud on it. I wish Cora Buzzell Milloy would write another story for the *Farmer*. I think the answer to Ethel M. Tibbett's riddle is a cow. My brother's birthday was to-day, March 5th. I have been cooking this forenoon; I made bread, cookies and brown bread. I like to cook. Papa has had the la grippe and pneumonia, but is better now. I think the editor is very kind to let us young folks have a column, and I think we ought to try to keep it full. Well, I have written quite a lot this time, so I will close by sending a riddle that I made up myself: What is it that wears tires and never wears aprons? I would like to have the boys and girls correspond with me. My age is 11 years.

LILLIE A. GREEN.

North Pittston.

Dear Little Eddie: Auntie was both surprised and pleased, when she read your nice little letter; and when Uncle Henry came home he took the *Farmer* and sat down to puzzle out your riddle and after a while, said he guessed the answer must be a hen. Was he right? We wish so much you could come out and make us a visit; we would have such a nice time; maybe in another vacation you can; if your mamma gets real well and strong so as to come too. You would not know cousin Earl now he's getting to be quite a large boy. Now write again and tell us, what you can do to help mamma and papa. Do you practice your lessons now? Now good-bye; write again.

AUNT MYRA.

Mr. Editor: I am a little girl ten years old. As I could not write, I thought I would print a letter for the *Farmer*. My papa lives on a farm. He has four horses; their names are Dime, Trip, Trinket and Gilmer. He has five cows, two calves and three pigs. We have sixteen hens and three geese. We have no school now. I went four months last summer. I have four sisters; their names are Nettie H., 8 years old, Ethel A., 7 years old, Clara B., 5 years old, and Annie A., 10 months old and a little brother, his name was Percy; he would have been 3 years old the last of March, if he had lived. I can wash dishes, sweep, dust, milk, and take care of the baby.

INEZ E. MURPHY.

Deerfield.

Dear Editor: I am a little girl nine years old. My papa has taken the *Farmer*, and I like to read the young folks' column very much. My papa has 46 sheep and 24 lambs. For pets I have a lamb, her name is Smut; a cat, her name is Cora. My brother has a dog, his name is Rover. I have one brother and one sister; their names are Everett and Mabel. As all little girls tell what they can do, I will. I can wash dishes, sweep, make beds, make patchwork, and knit. I will close by sending a riddle: Through the woods, and through the woods, and light on every bush.

DORA H. FELKER.

Monroe.

Mr. Editor: I thought I would write a letter for the young folks' column. I am a little boy eleven years old. My father is a farmer; and for stock we have 17 head of cattle, 4 horses, 46 sheep, 24 lambs, and 1 hog. My father owns 3 farms. For pets I have a dog named Rover, and a cat named Fluff. I have two sisters. I went to school a term of fourteen weeks this winter; it was taught by Erwin O. Fogg; he is a very nice teacher. If some little boy of my age will write to me, I will answer it. I will close by sending a riddle: Everything has it and so has a needle.

EVERETT J. FELKER.

Brooks.

Mr. Editor. I am a little girl 12 years old. This is the first time I have ever written for the *Farmer*. Father takes the *Farmer*. He lives on a farm. He has 3 horses, 4 cows, 2 hogs, 15 hens, 3 turkeys, 6 ducks. I go to school this winter. For studies we have reading, arithmetic, geography, grammar and satin. I will tell what I got for Christmas presents; I got a doll, box of beads, a ring, a book, hood, candy, oranges and apples.

FLORENCE PRIEST.

Coolidge.

Dear Young Folks: I live on a farm of about 75 acres. My papa has taken the *Maine Farmer* for more than 20 years. I am 9 years old. My papa has got 3 colts, now, but he used to have three; but he gave my brother one for a birthday present; their names are Jack and Fan and my brother's colt's name is Jack; and papa has a horse named Dolly. Our school is done, our teacher's name is Minnie L. Kelly. I will close now.

8-14-26-1 9. 7 18 5-5-14.

14-16-2-20-19-20-18-14, 13-1-3-14-5.

Dear Editor: This is my first attempt to write for the *Farmer*. I am a little girl thirteen years old. I have one sister, her name is Edna; and four brothers. Mother is dead. For pets, I have four kittens and one colt, his name is Jack; one horse, her name is Maud; one cow, and thirty-five hens. Our school is not keeping now.

BERTHA M. BENNETT.

Hancock.

Dear Editor: I thought I would write a letter to the *Maine Farmer*. I have got one doll; her name is Daffodil. My mamma has 26 hens, and last month they laid 40 dozen eggs. We have eight little chickens, and a hen setting. It has been mowing three or four days, and it is snowing now. Yours very truly,

NINA R. SPRINGER.

Hancock.

Dear Mr. Editor: I thought I would write a letter to the *Farmer*. I am a little girl seven years old. I have five dollies for pets, and a kitten; her name is Madi; a dog, and eight little chickens; they are just so smart and cunning as they can be. I have one brother and one sister.

Yours truly,

ETHEL I. SPRINGER.

THE FACT

That AYER'S Sarsaparilla CURES OTHERS of Scrofulous Diseases, Eruptions, Boils, Eczema, Liver and Kidney Diseases, Dyspepsia, Rheumatism, and Catarrh should be convincing that the same course of treatment WILL CURE YOU. All that has been said of the wonderful cures effected by the use of

AYER'S Sarsaparilla

during the past 50 years, truthfully applies to-day. It is, in every sense, The Superior Medicine. Its curative properties, strength, effect, and flavor are always the same; and for whatever blood diseases AYER'S Sarsaparilla is taken, they yield to this treatment. When you ask for

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don't be induced to purchase any of the worthless substitutes, which are mostly mixtures of the cheapest ingredients, contain no sarsaparilla, have no uniform standard of appearance, flavor, or effect, are blood-purifiers in name only, and are offered to you because there is more profit in selling them. Take

AYER'S Sarsaparilla

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists; Price $1; six bottles, $5.

Cures others, will cure you

Mr. GEO. F. HEALY, Waterville, Maine, SAYS:

If you are ever distressed after eating, use

GRODER'S SYRUP.

Mr. Healy has been Street Commissioner, and now has charge of the Sewer Department; is a respected and reliable citizen.

GENTLEMEN:—For two years I had suffered with **Dyspepsia**, which caused me an awful distress after my meals. I was restless nights, occasionally would have **Headache, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, and Burning Sensation** at the pit of my stomach. **Groder's Botanic Dyspepsia Syrup** has entirely cured me after everything else had failed. Its relaxative qualities are unequaled, and I heartily recommend it to say one troubled as I was.

Yours respectfully,
GEO. F. HEALY,
Waterville, Maine.

TO PROVE OUR FAITH IN THE MEDICINE,

On and after October 1, 1891, we give every person selling our medicine the privilege of selling six bottles for $5.00, and guarantee that in case it does you no good you can receive your money back. Read guaranty **with every bottle.** We claim to cure Dyspepsia, Headache, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Kidney Complaint, Neuralgia, Distress after eating, Palpitation of the Heart, Colic, Nervousness, Loss of Sleep, Dizziness, Irregularity of the Appetite, Pleurisy Pains, Bloat, Wind on the Stomach, Hacking Cough, and Constipation. And why will it cure? Because it is **Relaxing, Purifying, Soothing, and Healing.** It is compounded from the purest roots and herbs, free from Alcohol or Morphine. It is harmless to the smallest child; children like it, and it is far superior to Castor Oil and all other preparaticus.

Call for **Groder's Botanic Dyspepsia Syrup.** None genuine unless bearing our trade-mark, the Beaver.

THE GRODER DYSPEPSIA CURE COMPANY,
WATERVILLE, MAINE.

SAFE AS GOVERNMENT BONDS

Rentals earn the dividend of

6½ Per Cent.

per annum payable quarterly at the Traders National Bank, Boston, Mass.

Extra dividend of $2.00 per share to stockholders of record of May 9, 1892.

Paid up capital, January, 1892, $525,300.
Par value of stock, $100 per share.
Intrinsic value over $110 per share.
Stock offered at $103.50 until May 9, 1892.

The stock of the Northern Investment Co. is not dependent upon the speculative growth of a prospective new town, but has a real substantial foundation, upon which it is safely secured.

The property of the company has largely appreciated since its acquirement, and its prospective increase as instanced in all large commercial centres during the past 60 years, assures a handsome profit to the fortunate possessor of the company's stock bought at the present low price. It is a reliable, income-bearing investment, of which there is not the slightest question concerning its reliability.

Circulars giving a description of the corporation and its properties can be had on application at the office of the company.

246 Washington Street.
Advertiser Building, Boston, Mass. 413

Mass. Real Estate Co.
246 Washington St., Boston.

Dividends 7 Per Cent.

Authorised Capital - - -	$2,000,000
Capital paid in - - -	1,250,000
Surplus (June 30, 1891) over -	100,000
Price Stock until May 1 next -	108

ORGANIZED IN 1885.

Paid Dividends of 5 per cent. per annum for 4½ yrs.
Paid Dividends of 7 per ct. per ann. since July, 1890.
Av. Dividend since organization over 6 per ct. p'rann.
Surplus at close of last fiscal year, over $100,000.
Send or call at the office for information. 4620

YOUR COMPLEXION made beautiful and white, free from Freckles, Pimples, Moth, Blotches, Tan, Wrinkles, Sunburn and all facial blemishes. Send 10 cts. and receive a sample box, for doing all this, to THE FULLER DRUG STORE, Augusta, Maine.

STATEMENT UNITED STATES BRANCH
ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY
OF LIVERPOOL, ENG.

ASSETS, 31 Dec., 1891.

Real Estate owned by the Company, unincumbered	$1,818,300 10
Stocks and bonds owned by the Company, market value	4,347,880 00
Cash in Company's principal office and in bank	903,814 23
Interest due and accrued	74,950 00
Premiums in due course of collection	688,407 26
Other property	23,247 06
Aggregate of all the admitted assets of the Company at their actual value	$8,606,149 27

LIABILITIES, 31 Dec., 1891.

Net amount of unpaid losses and claims	$595,561 71
Amount required to safely re-insure all outstanding risks	3,572,492 86
All other demands against the Company	412,226 88
Total amount of liabilities, except capital stock and net surplus	$4,580,501 45
Surplus beyond capital	2,112,557 82
Aggregate amount of liabilities, including net surplus	$8,693,149 27

SCULL & BRADLEY, Managers.
GIDEON SCULL. FRED'K BRADLEY. GEO. P. FIELD.
MACOMBER, FARR & CO., Agts., Augusta.

STATEMENT OF THE
Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Co.
OF PHILADELPHIA.

ASSETS, 31 Dec., 1891.

Real Estate owned by the Company, unincumbered	$134,800 00
Loans on bonds and mortgages (first liens)	437,020 00
Stocks and bonds owned by the Company, Market value	2,291,505 00
Loans secured by collaterals	367,100 00
Cash in Company's principal office and in bank	84,677 77
Interest due and accrued	5,030 09
Premiums in due course of collection	155,158 13
Other property	2,304 39
	$3,625,990 37

LIABILITIES, 31 Dec., 1891.

Net amount of unpaid losses and claims	$150,741 67
Amount required to safely re-insure all outstanding risks	1,067,613 99
All other demands against the Company	5,500 00
Total amount of liabilities, except capital stock and net surplus	1,971,855 66
Capital actually paid up in cash	400,000 00
Surplus beyond capital	1,464,134 71
Aggregate amount of liabilities including net surplus	3,625,990 37

SCULL & BRADLEY, Managers.
GIDEON SCULL. FRED'K BRADLEY. GEO. P. FIELD
MACOMBER, FARR & CO., Ag'ts.,